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'It was a vital part of nation-building'

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The change in AAP's messaging

Corruption has long ceased to be the party's central agenda

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CHINA-ARAB SUMMIT

Xi's Saudi Arabia visit begins today

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World Bank raises India's growth projection to 6.9%

After three downgrades in its 2022-23 GDP growth estimates, Bank reverses course, citing strong Q2 growth and strong demand at start of Q3; report lauds strong macroeconomic fundamentals

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The World Bank on Tuesday lifted its growth forecast for India's economy this year to 6.9%, after having downgraded it to 6.5% in October, citing resilience in economic activity despite a deteriorating external environment.

The Bank said it revised the GDP forecast considering the strong upturn in the July-to-September quarter of 2022-23, when it grew 6.3% despite inflationary pressures and tighter financing conditions, "driven by strong private consumption and investment".

"The government's focus on bolstering capital expenditure also supported domestic demand in the first half of 2022-23. High frequency indicators indicate continued robust growth of domestic demand at the start of Q3 (October to December quarter)," the Bank noted in its latest India Development Report titled 'Navigating the Storm'.

"India's economy has been remarkably resilient to the deteriorating external environment, and strong macroeconomic fundamentals have placed it in good stead compared to other emerging market economies," said Auguste Tano Kouame, World Bank's country director in India.

In response to a query on whether India was experiencing 'jobless growth', Mr. Kouame said that jobs are being created, but they are all in the informal sector. "So, the policy question here is what to do to formalise that... How to make job creation visible," he remarked, adding that the renewable energy and green economy sectors could create a lot of jobs.

The Bank expects the Indian economy to grow at a slightly slower 6.6% in 2023-24 as a challenging external environment and faltering global growth will affect its economic outlook through different channels.

The report said that a one percentage point decline in growth in the United States is associated with a 0.4 percentage point decline in India's growth.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

In a better place

India is better positioned to manage external shocks, according to the World Bank's India Development Update. **Excerpts:**

- India's growth is affected by slower growth in major economies but the impact on India is relatively less compared to other emerging market economies
- The merchandise trade deficit will widen, driven by high oil prices. Goods export growth expected to moderate but will be 'somewhat offset' by Services exports
- Forex reserves down 10% this year, but still provide 'adequate buffer against global spillovers' with about eight months' import cover

Curbing terror financing in Afghanistan holds the key to regional security: NSA

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Curbing terrorism and terrorist financing in Afghanistan, and the use of trade and connectivity routes via Iran are key to regional security, said India as National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval chaired the first India-Central Asia meeting of NSAs and Secretaries of Security Councils in Delhi on Tuesday.

The day-long meeting, which was the outcome of the India-Central Asia virtual summit held in January this year, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and agreed to have security chiefs meet on a regular basis to discuss India's "extended neighbourhood".

"The [Security Advisers] discussed the current situation in Afghanistan and its impact on the security and stability of the region, reiterating strong support for a peaceful, stable and secure Afghanistan, emphasising respect for its sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity and urging non-interference in its internal affairs," said a joint communique at the end of the meeting, adding that all the countries present had concerns about the "current deteriorating humanitarian situation" in Afghanistan and the need to ensure that terrorist groups don't find safe haven there.

The meeting, which focussed on the situation on Afghanistan, is among a number of conversations New Delhi is having this week with various stakeholders.

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Stronger bond: Ajit Doval with his Uzbekistan counterpart Viktor Makhmudov at the meeting in Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

NEARBY

City leads in digital payment transactions

BENGALURU
Netizens in Bengaluru have made 14.82 million digital payment transactions in the January to October 2022 period, the highest in the country, amounting to ₹3,620 crore, according to a study. » Page 2

Various Dalit outfits come together

BENGALURU
After over a decade, several factions of the DSS came together on Tuesday, and demanded implementation of internal reservation among SCs. » Page 4

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 3

Maharashtra Ministers skip Belagavi visit; Shinde, Bommai agree to maintain peace

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The two Maharashtra Ministers, who had declared that they would visit Belagavi to hold meetings with Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) leaders, skipped their visit on Tuesday even as the Deputy Commissioner of Belagavi had banned their entry. At the same time, the police prevented the entry of Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV) activists into the city. Enraged by this, the activists, who wanted to enter Belagavi to protest the visit of Maharashtra Ministers, resorted to a stir on the national highway and stoned three vehicles.

CMs hold discussion

Meanwhile, in the wake of tension at the border, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde had a telephonic discussion with Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday and both of them agreed to maintain peace.

A team from Maharashtra comprising Ministers Chandrakant (Dada) Patil and Shambhuraj Desai, besides Dhairyasheel Mane, MP, had announced that they would visit Belagavi on Tuesday, hold meetings with MES leaders and visit houses of those the MES considers martyrs for Marathi cause. However, they skipped the visit. This is being seen as a response to the appeal by Karnataka that their visit would be inappropriate at this time.

Mr. Bommai had earlier said their visit at this juncture was inappropriate. Deputy Commissioner Nitesh Patil had even issued prohibitory orders, barring the three leaders from entering Belagavi district.

Karnataka Rakshana Vedike activists staging a protest at Hire Bagewadi in Belagavi district on Tuesday. P.K. BADIGER

Criticised

Maharashtra Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis said the visit was postponed due to Ambedkar Mahaparinirvan Divas.

"No one can stop them if they want to go. We are not afraid of going to Belagavi. The Constitution allows any Indian citizen to travel anywhere in the country," he told Marathi TV channels in Mumbai. This was criticised by the Nationalist Congress Party leaders who said the Ministers lacked the courage to visit Belagavi.

The Belagavi police stopped a large number of KRV activists, led by its president T.A. Narayana Gowda, at Hire Bagewadi village on the city's outskirts.

Angered by this, KRV activists began a protest on the national highway, stopping vehicles. Mr. Gowda alleged that police had assaulted Kannada activists. "I don't know if we are living in Karnataka or any other State. Why should the police use force against Kannada activists?" he said.

The protest by KRV activists turned violent with some of them stoning vehicles bearing Maharashtra registration numbers at Hire Bagewadi.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 5

Kangaroo court puts price on union of love

SPECIAL

P. V. Srividya
KRISHNAGIRI

When Pradeep, a diploma holder, married his then-girlfriend, a B.Sc. Botany graduate, it was a union of love, duly registered. In time, their families accepted the couple, both from the same Dalit community. However, opposition came from an unexpected quarter. The *manayakarar* (community head) of their Scheduled Caste village of more than 200 households in the Thogarapalli panchayat in Mathur held a community 'court' to 'judge' their case and slapped a fine of ₹25,000 on the families of the couple.

Mr. Pradeep's case would be the beginning of the village's practice of levying 'fines' against those falling in love by the feudal 'kangaroo courts' headed by Arignar, the DMK union secretary for Bargur South constituency in Thogarapalli panchayat.

Rights infringed: The site of the 'kangaroo court' in Thogarapalli panchayat where couples were subjected to fines. N. BASHKARAN

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Thermal power generation increases in the country

16.28 In percentage, the growth in India's thermal power at 87,687 MU (million units) in November this year as compared to the 75,412 MU generated in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. The overall generation of power increased by 14.63% from 1,02,968 MU to 1,18,029 MU in the reporting month year-on-year. PTI

World Bank revises India's GDP growth forecast for FY23

6.9 In percentage, the World Bank's forecast for India's GDP growth in 2022-23. In its India Development Update, the World Bank said the revision was due to the higher resilience of the Indian economy to global shocks and better-than-expected second-quarter numbers. In October, the World Bank had cut India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5% from the earlier 7.5%. PTI

More than 23 billion digital transactions, UPI dominates

38.32 In ₹ trillion, the worth of more than 23 billion digital payment transactions carried out in July-September 2022 in India, according to fintech firm Wordline India. According to the 'India Digital Payments Report' for the third quarter of 2022, UPI clocked over 19.65 billion transactions worth ₹32.5 trillion, dominating the segment. PTI

Revenue growth accelerates for the advertising industry

16.8 In percentage, the expected revenue growth in the Indian advertising industry in 2023, according to a report by U.S.-based media company, Group M. The advertising industry in the country, which has a relatively stronger economic outlook as compared to the world markets, will grow 15.8% to $14.9 billion in 2022, the report added. PTI

Ukraine grain reaches east Africa amid worst drought in decades

25,000 In tonnes, the first grain shipment from Ukraine to arrive in Djibouti for delivery to Ethiopia amid the region's worst drought in decades. A second ship with 30,000 tonnes will head to Ethiopia next week, while a third vessel is being loaded with 25,000 tonnes of wheat for Somalia. AP

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Europe's concerns about the U.S. IRA

What are the provisions of the new Inflation Reduction Act of the United States? Why has the French President described the Act as 'super aggressive' toward European companies? Are the EU's fears about the new legislation valid? How has the Biden administration responded?

EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

The story so far:
French President Emmanuel Macron during his two-day visit to the U.S. questioned Joe Biden about clean energy subsidies in the new Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which European countries believe are discriminatory to non-American companies. Addressing lawmakers at the Library of Congress, Mr. Macron described the IRA as "super aggressive" toward European companies. The EU has asked for a resolution of its concerns before the Act kicks in on January 1 next year.

What is the U.S. IRA?
Signed into law on August 16, the IRA is a $430 billion package of federal spending, tax breaks, credits, and levies, aimed at fighting climate change, reducing healthcare costs, and making large corporations pay their "fair share" in taxes. The Act is a scaled-down version of Mr. Biden's ambitious Build Back Better plan that did not get the Senate's approval in 2021. Besides its goal of bringing down inflation, the Act is the biggest climate action package in U.S. history – earmarking $370 billion for climate-focused funding and investments aimed at cutting emissions by around 40% below 2005 levels by 2030. The IRA combines climate action goals with industrial policy, aiming to transition to clean energy by incentivising local manufacturing of renewable energy components. It also seeks to reduce American reliance on China for materials and components for the clean energy industry.

In order to bolster clean energy development in the U.S., the IRA provides consumer and industry-side incentives. To promote the use of electric vehicles (EV) and to secure domestic supply chains for their manufacturing, the federal tax incentive policy for EVs has been changed. Now, only passenger EVs assembled in North America are eligible for a $7,500 tax credit incentive. Those who buy used EVs will be eligible for a $4,000 tax credit if 40% of the critical minerals used in the car batteries are extracted, processed and recycled in North America or a country having a free-trade agreement with Washington.

Additionally, the Act offers $10 billion investment tax credit to build clean technology manufacturing facilities, two billion dollars in grants for refurbishing existing auto manufacturing facilities to make zero-emission vehicles, and up to $20 billion in loans to build new EV manufacturing facilities across the country. It also offers billions in federal procurement to American-made clean technologies.

Energy worries: U.S. President Joe Biden and French President Emmanuel Macron hold a joint press conference in the White House on December 1. AFP

What are Europe's concerns?
Europe's high energy dependence on Russia led to energy shocks in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine war, leading to energy shortages, skyrocketing power prices, and a harsh winter. The 27 member countries of the EU fear that the IRA tax credits and subsidies to EVs and other green product makers in North America and free-trade partner countries put European companies at a disadvantage and may push these companies to move critical parts of their supply chains to America. The EU's own new green plan 'Fit for 55' is targeting to cut CO2 emissions from cars by 55% and vans by 50% by 2030 and all emissions from cars by 2035. For this, it will need to significantly increase its uptake of EVs. Although China dominates the EV purchasing market, Europe has also been posting high growth in EV demand vis-a-vis the total auto demand, even faster than the U.S. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), nine of the top 10 countries by share of EVs in the total car stock are in Europe. To meet its emissions targets, the EU will benefit from its local automakers ramping up manufacturing, but the IRA raises fears of automakers moving to the U.S. Mr. Macron in November hosted several European CEOs of energy, auto, and pharma companies to convince them to not move manufacturing to America. Europe's fears may not be unfounded as several automakers, battery makers and energy companies have already made announcements or shown interest in setting up shop in America. South Korea and Japan have also raised similar concerns. For instance, *Reuters* reported that Swedish battery maker Northvolt was set to establish a lithium-ion battery factory in Germany, Europe's top car manufacturer, but after the IRA, the company's CEO Peter Carlsson said that it could get up to 800 million euros ($836 million) in U.S. state subsidies, which was nearly four times what the German government was offering. EU members claim that around 200 billion euros of the subsidies are for locally produced content provisions, which they say potentially violates the World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.

What is the U.S.'s stand?
At a joint press conference during Mr. Macron's visit, President Joe Biden said that there was room for "tweaks" in the IRA to "make it easier for European countries to participate" and that it was "never intended" to exclude cooperating countries. However, he stressed that the "U.S. makes no apology" for promoting American manufacturing and would continue to create jobs for its people.

THE GIST

- French President Emmanuel Macron during his two-day visit to the U.S. questioned Joe Biden about clean energy subsidies in the new Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which European countries believe are discriminatory to non-American companies.
- The 27 member countries of the EU fear that the IRA tax credits and subsidies to EVs and other green product makers in North America and free-trade partner countries put European companies at a disadvantage and may push these companies to move critical parts of their supply chains to America.
- President Joe Biden stressed that the "U.S. makes no apology" for promoting American manufacturing and would continue to create jobs for its people.

How is TRAI proposing to help callers identify spammers?

What is the new feature the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India is planning to introduce? What is its function? What are the concerns?

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:
On November 29, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) floated a consultation paper seeking comments about the potential introduction of a Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) feature. The feature would provide an individual with information about the calling party (similar to 'Truecaller' and 'Bharat Caller ID & Anti-Spam'). The idea is to ensure that telephone subscribers are able to make an informed choice about incoming calls and curb harassment by unknown or spam callers. Comments for the consultation paper are invited until December 27.

What is its purpose?
Existing technologies present the number of the calling entity on the potential receiver's handset. Since subscribers are not given the name and identity of the caller, they sometimes choose not to answer them believing it could be unsolicited commercial communication from unregistered telemarketers. This could lead to even genuine calls being unanswered.

Additionally, there have been rising concerns about robocalls (calls made automatically using IT-enabled systems with a pre-recorded voice), spam calls and fraudulent calls. Truecaller's '2021 Global Spam and Scam Report' revealed that the average number of spam calls per user each month in India, stood at 16.8 while total spam volumes received by its users were in excess of 3.8 billion calls in October alone. Smartphone users, at present, rely on in-built features or third-party apps to mark and tackle spam calls. However, as per the regulator, their reliance on crowd-sourced data may not be reliable.

Are there concerns about privacy?
Isha Suri, a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Internet and Society (CIS), opines that, notwithstanding the utility, it is not particularly clear how the CNAP mechanism would balance the caller's right to remain anonymous, an essential component of the right to privacy. To put it into perspective, an individual may opt to remain anonymous for multiple reasons, for example, whistle-blowers or employees being harassed. She observed that because customers accord consent only to their operators when completing the prerequisite KYC formalities for a connection, it would be ideal that a framework for the feature is developed along those lines rather than asking a centralised database operated by a third party to host and share data (one of the proposed models). "You have to see it in parallel with The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill (2022) which has a clause on deemed consent lacking adequate safeguards including sharing of data with third parties," Ms. Suri said.

Would the provisions be enough?
Previously, telemarketers were required to be registered as promotional numbers, making it easier to identify and block them. However, CEO and Founder of LocalCircles Sachin Taparia told *The Hindu*, that marketers have started deploying people who are not necessarily part of the entity's set-up, but rather "at-home workers" to whom work is being outsourced. They are given SIM cards not registered to a particular company, but rather to the individual themselves. Mr. Taparia says, "Just by showing the identity would not mean much, once the system (to identity and mark spammers) gets built and hundreds of people are able to utilise the system, only then would the system have a meaningful impact." Ms. Suri adds that the government must also invest in digital literacy, skilling citizens to navigate and use the tech better, ensuring they do not share their data indiscriminately and are informed about dangers such as financial frauds and spoofing.

THE GIST

- On November 29, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) floated a consultation paper seeking comments about the potential introduction of a Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) feature.
- Truecaller's '2021 Global Spam and Scam Report' revealed that the average number of spam calls per user each month in India, stood at 16.8 while total spam volumes received by its users were in excess of 3.8 billion calls in October alone.
- The government must invest in digital literacy, skilling citizens to navigate and use tech better, ensuring that they do not share their data indiscriminately.

INBRIEF

Workshop on forest fire management held

Karnataka Forest Department on Monday organised a one-day workshop on forest fire management. Bharat Jyoti, director, Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun, and Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Government of Karnataka Jawaid Akhatar, delivered the keynote address. According to a release from the Karnataka Forest Department, officers from the States of Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Kerala, and Orissa shared their experiences and recent trends on forest fire management though advanced technologies such as geo-spatial forest information system, drones, and advanced fire fighting equipments to minimise fire incidents involving fringe communities and capacity building of forest personnel by updating their field training.

KOPA office-bearers elected

V. Krishnamoorthy has been elected president of the Karnataka Offset Printers Association (KOPA) for the period 2023-24 at its annual general body meeting held recently. The other office-bearers who were elected are: Venkata Raghavan, vice-president; Chandrashekar, secretary; Aravind Nayak, joint secretary; and Ajay, treasurer.

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (December 7, Wednesday), the following explainer is available:

- The workings of ChatGPT, the latest natural language processing tool
bit.ly/chatgptaitool

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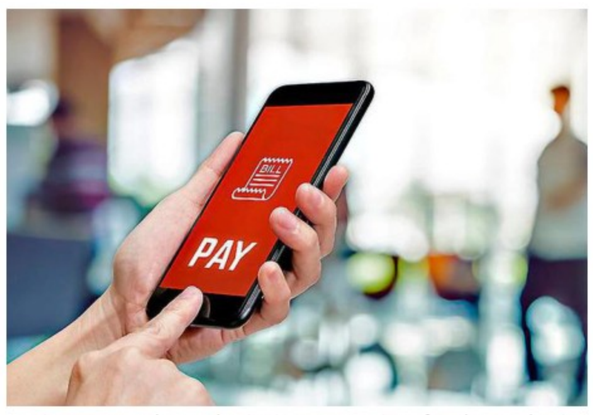
Bengaluru leads country in digital payment transactions

Between January and October this year, city saw 14.82 million such transactions valued at ₹3,620 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU



Festive season sales, and a rise in consumption after the pandemic have helped the Bengaluru to take the top spot in digital payment transactions, said the study. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Netizens in the tech capital of India, Bengaluru, have made 14.82 million digital payment transactions in the January to October 2022 period, the highest in the country, amounting to ₹3,620 crore, according to a study put out by Worldline India, a payment technology player.

Hyderabad accounted for 10.36 million digital payment transactions amounting to over ₹3,050 crore and Chennai 9.76 million at ₹2,250 crore. The country's financial capital, Mumbai, saw 9.4 million people carrying out digital payment transactions amounting to ₹2,740 crore, and Pune with 7.88 million transactions clocked ₹1,730 crore.

The 10-month period under consideration, saw frequently visited physical merchant categories like grocery stores, restaurants, clothing and apparel, pharmacy, hotels, jewellery retail, speciality retail, household appliances, and departmental stores while in the online-space category wise, e-commerce (shopping for goods and services), gaming, utility and financial services together accounted for over 86% in terms of volume, according to the survey.

Festive season sales, and a rise in consumption after the pandemic have helped the city to take the top spot in digital payments transactions, stated the study.

Ramesh Narasimhan, Chief Executive Officer - India, Worldline, said: "Today, both customers and sellers are more receptive towards digital payments. Digital payments are gradually becoming like a commodity, and forming a subtle yet an integral part of our lives. The swift adoption of digital payments can be witnessed with each passing quarter."

Payment instruments like UPI, cards, PPIs were already clocking over 23 billion transactions in the country in a quarter, he added.

Caught in management dispute, staff of Dr. M.C. Modi Eye Hospital stay away from work

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Stuck in a tussle over management control, the over-four-decade-old Dr. M.C. Modi Eye Hospital, a well-known hospital for eye care services to the poor, including free cataract surgeries, has been closed for the last five days.

There have been no consultations or surgeries in the hospital after four employees were served with injunction order on Thursday, restraining them from entering the premises. From Friday, the other employees protesting against the injunction order have stayed away from work, and since Sunday, employees, mostly women, have been sitting on a 24-hour vigil in front of the hospital.

Employees staging a protest in front of the hospital on Tuesday.

Cataract surgeries

The 50-bed hospital in Rajajinagar, established by Padma Bhushan awardee and ophthalmologist late Dr. M.C. Modi in 1980 on a sprawling two-acre premises, normally conducts about 1,000 surgeries in a month. More than half of them are conducted free for people, who are selected from rural areas. Dr. Modi passed away in 2005 and his son Amarnath Modi, who did not have an heir, looked after the hospital till his death in 2014.

The problem, according to a protesting worker, started after the death of Amarnath as Dr. Modi's relatives started claiming ownership over the hospital while a group of eminent Lingayats, including politicians and legal luminaries, and well-wishers of late Dr. Modi, insisted on forming a new trust to manage the hospital.

Meanwhile, State government that had appointed a tahsildar to manage the hospital also withdrew in 2017 after certain developments in favour of Dr. Modi's kin.

Sources said, frequent complaints and counter-complaints in the jurisdictional Mahalakshmi Layout police station had become the norm in the last few years. "Recently too, one of Dr. Modi's relatives Subhash Modi armed with a court injunction tried to take possession of the hospital, which sparked the ongoing impasse. Acting on a complaint, a case has been registered against him for trespass," a senior police officer said.

People aware of developments said, the charitable hospital ran from 2017 till now without having a proper management. "Salaries for about 80 employees, including about eight doctors, purchase of equipment, free surgeries and upgradation of hospital were all done with the money collected from the services. The bank account had been frozen in 2016. It became a perfect example of a cooperative venture," said an office-bearer of a leading trade union in Bengaluru. "About ₹35 lakh is needed for salaries alone every month that had been well managed in the past five years."

A hospital worker said: "Most the employees have been working for 15 to 20 years. We have run the hospital without any problem in the last five years and we treat it as a home. We want the government to take over the hospital and offer us job security."

State govt. declares human rabies as a notifiable disease

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

It is now mandatory for all government and private health facilities to report all cases to the State Health Dept.

The State government on Monday, declared human rabies – a fatal viral disease that spreads through the bite of rabid animals (mainly dogs) – as a notifiable disease under the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020.

Following this, it is now mandatory for all government and private health facilities (including medical colleges) to report all suspected, probable, and confirmed human rabies cases to the State Health Department.

"Prevention, control, and elimination of rabies from a geographical area can only be achieved through strong surveillance and disease-reporting systems. Notification will facilitate contact-tracing and prompt prophylactic measures to prevent infection in other people exposed to the same source. Hence, human rabies is declared as a notifiable disease," stated the notification.

Deaths due to rabies

Rabies kills about 20,000 persons in India every year, with up to 60% of cases occurring in children under 15 years of age. To address the issue of rabies in the country, a National Rabies Control Program (NRCP) has been implemented in the country since the 12th Five Year Plan. Rabies is the oldest recognized zoonotic disease (transmitted from animals to humans) with an extremely high fatality rate.

According to NRCP, 6,644 clinically suspected human rabies cases and deaths have been reported from 2012 to 2020. This is based on regular and routine reports received from the States and UTs. Karnataka reported 22 human rabies deaths in 2020, 28 in 2021 and 32 in 2022 so far. M.K. Sudarshan, founder president and mentor of Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India (APCRI), said the number of human rabies cases and deaths are grossly under-reported.

"Rabies is being reported under the programme by Infectious diseases (ID) hospitals through monthly reports. There are three ID hospitals in Karnataka – one each in Bengaluru, Mysuru and Kolar – all in the southern part of the State. The rest of the State remains largely uncovered. These ID hospitals get cases referred from neighbouring States too and these get added to the State's figures. Thus, the true incidence of human rabies in the State remains largely incomplete," he said.

Techie arrested for setting fire to Kannada flag

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Alert residents of Parangipalya on Sunday night caught a 30-year-old IIT graduate from Delhi red-handed while he was setting fire to the Kannada flag near a bakery on 22nd cross.

The accused, Amritesh Tiwari, told the residents that he was upset about them for not giving importance to migrants, and alleged that they looked down on outsiders. Inquiries revealed that Tiwari was working in a private company, and was terminated for his rude behaviour.

He told the police that he also nurtured a grudge against police as they misbehaved with him during lockdown, when he ventured out for shopping.

Two cafes run by persons with disabilities opened at KIA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has launched two cafes run by persons with disabilities to mark the International Day of Disabled Persons.

The eateries are operated by the non-profit Mitti Social Initiatives Foundation. The cafes are open 24/7 and have Braille instructions, sign language interpreters, placards, and ramps.

Hari Marar, MD & CEO, BIAL, who inaugurated the cafes, said, "We are delighted to have Mitti Cafe open two outlets at KIA, and to have the opportunity to provide employment opportunities to those who are disadvantaged."

Alina Alam, CEO and Founder, Mitti Café, said, "To be able to run not one but two cafes by adults with disabilities at KIA is a dream come true for us."

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am investigating title to the immovable property fully mentioned and described in the Schedule hereunder (the "**Schedule Property**"), under instructions from my Client/s who intends to purchase the said property.

Mr. G N Chiranjeevi, son of late Mr. G N Giriyappa, resident at #10, 2nd Cross, C K Channappa Garden, Bangalore 560 027 ("**Owner**") has represented himself as the sole and absolute owner of the Schedule Property, having good clear marketable, right, title and interest therein. He has further represented that there are no other person/s having any right or claim over the Schedule Property. The Owner has further represented that he has not entered any Agreements/Memorandum of Understanding etc., nor mortgaged, created any, right, interest, lien or encumbered the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner with any person/s. Any person/s having objection/s or claims, shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/s or claims within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this Notice with the Undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed to conclude the proposed transaction.

Schedule

ALL THAT piece and parcel of immovable property being residential sites bearing No 16, 17 and 18 (formed out of portion of land bearing erstwhile Survey No 287, measuring 10 guntas out of 4 acres 20 guntas converted for non-agricultural residential purpose *vide* Official Memorandum dated 19/10/2004, bearing No BDS/ALN/SR(KT)/109/2004-05), presently coming within the jurisdiction of BBMP and having consolidated khata No 343/342/3978/16, 17 and 18, each measuring 40 feet x 68 feet and together measuring East to West 68 feet and North to South 120 feet aggregating to 8160 square feet and together bounded on the East by Road; West by Private Property; North by Property owned by Mr. Ashirvad and South by Site No 15

Ms. Rashmi Deshpande, Advocate
4th Floor, Prestige Takt, No.23,
Kasturba Cross Road, Bangalore-560001.
Rashmi.deshpande@klaw.in

Place: Bengaluru
Date:07-12-2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is given on behalf of my client **Mr. SOMNATH SHIVRAJAPPA BAROLE and Mrs. NIKHITA ASHOK KARANJEKAR**, that the property as more Particularly described in the schedule hereunder and Situated at Gonigattapura Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Any person(s) having claim(s) or objection(s) to our client purchasing the above property should write to the undersigned within **7 days** from the date of advertisement, failing which our client shall be free to purchase the said property from the aforesaid persons.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY
(EXTENT OF 'THE SANCTUARY - PHASE-III)

All that piece and parcel of the immovable converted property bearing Survey Nos. 1/6, 2/2, 2/5, 24 (New Sy No. 24/4), 24/3, 24/5, 25/1A, 25/3, 25/1B, 25/2, 25/3, 26/3, 26/5, 27/1, 27/2, 32/2, 32/3, 33/1, 1/10, 1/11, 2/9, 1/8, 1/13, 2/1, 2/3, 2/6, 2/7, 26/2, 24/2, 2/4, 2/10, 2/11, 25/1A, 26/1 and 26/4, totally measuring 21 Acres 19.08 Guntas, all situated at Gonigattapura Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY
(Description of the Site/Plot hereby agreed to be sold under this Agreement)

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residentially converted property being vacant residential **Site bearing No. 312** (Three Hundred and Twelve), totally **measuring 139.29 square meters (1500),** carved out of land in Sy. No. 26/1 of Gonighattapura Village, in the layout known as "THE SANCTUARY PHASE-III" formed in the Schedule 'A' Property with due sanction from the Department of Anekal Planning Authority, and bounded on;-

East by : Road; West by : Site No.305; North by : Site No.311; South by : Site No.313.

Santhosh Kumar S
MBA, LLB, Advocate
Licit Go Legal
#88, Share Space,
Near Whitefield Post Office,
Borewell Road, Whitefield
Bangalore-66. Ph: 9741 33 33 77

BANGALORE DATED : 06.12.2022

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
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(A Central University Under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India) Established by an Act of Parliament in 2008

Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/13/21/3/2018-Estt.-(R) Date: 07.12.2022

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR CONTRACT ENGAGEMENT

Indian Maritime University – Headquarters invites suitable candidates for walk-in-interview for the following posts **on contract basis:**

1. **Information Technology (IT) - Section Manager – (01 Position)**
2. **Programmer (01 Position)**

Eligibility	**Visit website (www.imu.edu.in)**
Date of interview	14.12.2022 (Wednesday). Kindly refer to Para 3 of important instructions for timing, available at IMU website
Consolidated emoluments	1. For IT -Section Manager: A Maximum of Rs. 80,000/- per month 2. For Programmer: A Maximum of Rs. 49,000/- per month
Contract period	Initially for a period of six months, which may be extended for further period based on performance and requirement

Eligibility criteria for the post and other details can be obtained from **www.imu.edu.in**. No TA/DA will be paid to the candidates to attend Walk-in-interview.

-Sd-
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PERSONAL

LOST & FOUND

I (DUSHYANTH K V) have lost my transfer certificate of st.Joseph pu college. If Found Please Contact: 7259295944

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I RETHISH R S/o Ramachandran Nair T K R/o C–1102 Oceanus Tranquil has Changed my name from Rethish R to Rethish Ramachandran Nair

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KHUSHI Singh daughter of Raj Kumar Singh, resident of SMQ No 91/13, Akash Vihar Marathahalli, Bengaluru have changed my name from Khushi Singh to Khushi vide affidavit dated 29 Nov 2022 before notary AR Muneer Ahmed Bengaluru.

I, MANJULA, W/o. Late. D.C. Puttashamaiah, R/o. Manjula Nilaya, Doddappanna Layout, B.K.Halli Bengaluru- 562149, have changed my name from Manjula to Manjula D.P., vide affidavit, dated: 05/12/2022, sworn before Notary Public, G.P. Chaya, Bangalore

I, SEETHALAKSHMI, W/o. Late. Mani Rathnaswamy, R/o. No. 1584, Lakshmi Nilaya, 1st Main, K.G. Halli Jalahalli West, Bengaluru- 560015, have changed my name from Seethalakshmi to M. Seethalakshmi, dated: 05/12/2022, sworn before Notary Public, G.P. Chaya, Bangalore.

I, VINAYA Vijay Bhagat, W/o Vijay Vasant Bhagat, R/at Flat No. A-705, Ramanuja Enclave, 6th Floor, Sridhargudda Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560060 have changed my son's name from Virysh Vijay Bhagat to Veeresh Vijay Bhagat vide affidavit dated 06-12-2022 before Notary Uday Kumar, Bengaluru.

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TENDERS

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tenders are invitd from reputed parties having GST Registration for the supply of Polythene film LDPE and Rain Guarding Adhesive for the rain guarding work at various Estates of the Corporation for the year 2023-24. For more details log on **www.sfckerala.com**
Ph: 0475 - 2222251/52, 9188292251
Sd/-
Managing Director
The State Farming Corporation of Kerala Ltd.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AKMAL PASHA S/O A BASHA, R/O #2167, 16th Cross ,N G Kareem Block, M P Road, Shanthinagar, Mysore, Karnataka–570019, Have changed my name to MOHAMMED PASHA.

LEGAL NOTICE

अदालती सूचना

आज्ञा से श्री योगेन्द्र सागर, सीनियर सिविल जज देहरादून
न्यायालय सीनियर सिविल जज देहरादून
प्रकीर्ण वाद संख्या–259 वर्ष 2022
श्री आशीष जॉय, आयु लगभग 33 वर्ष पुत्र स्व0 श्री अनिल डेविड, निवासी–53सी, राजपुर रोड, देहरादून द्वारा सामान्य प्रतिनिधि श्रीमती बीना वालिया पुत्री श्री एस0 एस0 वालिया, निवासी–53–सी, राजपुर रोड, देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड।
..... आवेदक / प्रार्थी
बनाम
1– श्रीमती नीना सोन्स, धर्मपत्नी श्री हयूबट सोन्स निवासिनी 215 Admirately Manor, 13th Cross 6th Main, HAL-II, Stage, Indranagar, Bangalore, 560008
2– श्रीमती अनिता एडविन धर्मपत्नी श्री एडविन, निवासिनी II-72, SFS, 208 Yela Naka, New Town, Bangalore 560106
..... विपक्षीगण
उपरोक्त प्रार्थी की ओर से प्रार्थना पत्र अन्तर्गत धारा 372, भारतीय उत्तराधिकार अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत श्री अनिल डेविड पुत्र श्री जेरेल्ड डेविड का उत्तराधिकार प्रमाण पत्र प्रतिभूति निक्षेप के प्रतिफल स्वरूप प्राप्त किये जाने तथा मृतक स्व0 श्री अनिल डेविड के नाम पर उक्त बैंक में खाता संख्या–1370244197 में लॉकर भी उपलब्ध हैं उसमें जो भी प्रतिभूति / सामान जमा हैं, उसे प्राप्त किये जाने हेतु प्रार्थना पत्र प्रस्तुत किया है, जिसकी सुनवाई हेतु दिनांक 09–01–2023 की तिथि नियत है।
अतः यह सूचना दी जाती है कि जिस किसी को उक्त आवेदन के सम्बन्ध में कोई आपत्ति हो तो वह प्रातः 10:00 बजे न्यायालय सीनियर सिविल जज देहरादून में स्वयं या अपने अधिवक्ता द्वारा उपस्थित होकर अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत करें, अन्यथा उक्त तिथि के उपरान्त कोई आपत्ति ग्रहण नहीं की जायेगी तथा उक्त आवेदन पर उचित आदेश पारित कर दिया जायेगा।
आज दिनांक 03.12.2022 को मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालय की मुद्रा सहित जारी किया गया है।
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न्यायालय सीनिया सिविल जज
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TENDERS

TENDER
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) invites tenders for supply and installation of drip irrigation system at Maize Doubled Haploid Facility at Kunigal, Karnataka as described in https://www.cimmyt.org/careers/ (Tenders & Requests for Proposals)

CACHE

GETTY IMAGES

The workings of ChatGPT, the latest natural language processing tool

The latest artificial intelligence tool is creating a buzz among computer scientists and programmers due to its creative capabilities. The tool has been developed by OpenAI, a research institute founded in 2015

S. Varahasimhan

On November 30, a tool called ChatGPT was released on the internet. It created quite a stir especially among the artificial intelligence (AI) crowd because this tool 'knew' every topic under the sun; it could answer questions and carry on a conversation. Experts in the AI community call this an epochal moment, stressing how powerful ChatGPT is. This tool interacts with humans in natural language and is impressive because aside from answering general queries, it has many other functions. ChatGPT has been developed by OpenAI, which is a research institute and company that focuses on developing artificial intelligence technology in a responsible and safe way. It was founded in 2015 by a group of entrepreneurs and researchers, including Elon Musk, Sam Altman, and Greg Brockman.

Language models

ChatGPT is much more than a chat bot. For example, you can ask it to write a program or even a simple software application. It can also do creative tasks such as writing a story. It can explain scientific concepts and answer any question that needs factual answers. ChatGPT is what is called a Language Model, rather than a chat bot. A language model is a software that prints out a sequence of words as output that are related to some words given as input with appropriate semantic relation; in practical terms, it means that it can perform tasks like answering questions and carrying on a conversation with humans. It is often used in natural language processing (NLP) applications, such as speech recognition, automatic translation, and text generation.

It is also a neural network. A neural network can be thought of as a large network of computers that can fine tune its output of words based on the feedback given to it during stages of training: this training process and the technology together are called Reinforcement Learning. The input data is typically huge corpus of text. All these technologies are part of the artificial intelligence (also called Machine Learning) that has been witnessing tremendous advancements.

While one tries to understand how a language model works, we should also look at "word embedding" which represents words as a matrix of numbers that can be manipulated inside computers. When a neural network processes these numbers, it can differentiate words according to different contexts: for example, when "shoot" appears with "gun" the neural network knows that the words that will follow may mostly be "bullets" or "victims", whereas when "shoot" appears with "camera", the neural network knows that the following words may be "picture" or "pixel". With a further refining technique called "Transformer", a neural network can accurately "understand" the context of a sentence or a paragraph. This "comprehension" can be used for multiple purposes like answering a question, summarising a paragraph or an article, translating documents and so on.

The development of ChatGPT

ChatGPT follows a generation of language models that were released by OpenAI from 2018. In 2018, OpenAI released the Generative Pre-Training (GPT) language model. Here, generative means that it is a type of neural network that can create new content based on input content, called Training Data. This technology makes it suitable for creative tasks like writing a new story.

With the transformer technique mentioned above, GPT was improved and "Generative Pre-trained Transformer 2" or GPT-2 was released in 2019. GPT-3 with even more sophisticated neural networks was launched in 2020. In early 2022, GPT3.5 was released and ChatGPT is successor to GPT3.5. Each successive generation is more advanced than its predecessor. For example, GPT-3 was trained with 175 billion parameters. These large language models have looked at almost all text available on the internet and many other text documents, thereby making them highly informed.

ChatGPT is fine-tuned to provide conversational responses, as against essay-type content, because the neural network behind it has been additionally trained on conversational transcripts with human feedback.

There are a few other language models that are popular in the AI community, like BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) from Google. However, ChatGPT seems to be the most powerful for conversational purposes.

The conversational AI

The accuracy of ChatGPT or any language model can be measured using standard techniques. One such technique is "Recall-Oriented Understudy for Gisting Evaluation" or the ROUGE metric which compares ChatGPT's output of content against a standard expected content and measures the overlap as success percentage. For language models like GPT that are also used in translation, another metric called the BLEU metric (Bilingual Evaluation Under Study) is employed; this metric compares overlap in translated content with a standard translation.

In addition to the conversational nature of the tool, the creative generating capability is very appealing. ChatGPT can become a powerful pedagogy tool on any topic to anyone, because we can instruct it to "explain it to me like I am a six year old". It can explain in simple terms anything from philosophy to cooking recipes, including new recipes of its own. If you are in mood for some fun, you can ask ChatGPT to narrate a new story to you!

Is ChatGPT the most powerful NLP tool? For conversational purposes, the answer is yes. However, it may not be equally powerful in specialised contexts. For example, if a doctor needs an automatic conversational assistant for medical queries, the neural networks behind ChatGPT need to have been trained on specialised data. Considering that ChatGPT can write programs, it should be possible to make it knowledgeable on any specialised topic eventually. For general purposes, ChatGPT can be considered the most powerful for now. (The tool can be accessed by anyone from this site, https://chat.openai.com/chat)

S. Varahasimhan is a senior employee at a software product MNC in Chennai

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"Sir, Mr. G. Jagannatha Rao of Bhubaneswar wants to know the difference between (a) He relinquishes office next week and (b) He will relinquish office next week."

" 'He relinquishes office next week' means that it is absolutely certain that he will give up office next week. You use the simple present tense to refer to future actions when definite arrangements have already been made for such actions. 'He will relinquish office next week' means that from what you have heard, he is likely to relinquish office next week. 'He relinquishes office next week' has greater definiteness and certainty than 'He will relinquish office next week'.

The Assembly meets next month.
I leave tomorrow for Calcutta.
The train leaves in twenty minutes.
I dine with the minister tomorrow.
The session begins on the 1st of March.
She gives a talk on inflation next month.

You cannot use the simple present to indicate the future, when the possibility of arranging something earlier is ruled out. You can say 'I leave tomorrow for Bombay', but you can't say "I catch cold tomorrow', 'It rains tomorrow', 'She falls ill next month'."

"Sir, Mr. S. Nazimuddin of Varkala wants to know whether 'equipments' as the plural of 'equipment' is acceptable".

" 'Equipment' is generally used as a collective noun. 'Equipment' means 'the set of articles, apparatus serving to equip a person, thing, enterprise, etc.'

We have all the necessary equipment.
They took with them the equipment for the expedition.
This is an air conditioning equipment.

'Equipments' is used when you want to refer to the individual articles of the equipment.

What you find scattered here are his fishing equipments."

"Mr. S. Sanjeeva Reddy of Hyderabad wants to know the difference between 'rise' and 'raise', sir."

"I have already discussed this once. Perhaps it was not clear. 'Rise' generally means 'to get up'.

She rose from her seat when he entered.

'Raise' means 'to lift', 'to cause to rise'.

He is interested in raising the level of teaching in schools.
The bus raised a lot of dust.

Well, let's stop here."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

"Goodbye."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The Armed Forces Flag Day is observed annually on December 7. Here is a quiz on the Indian armed forces

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

This insignia consists of the national emblem and a crossed baton and sabre in a lotus blossom wreath. Identify which rank in the armed forces has this insignia. Name the officers who have been conferred the rank.

QUESTION 2

This is the first and only tri-service theatre command of the Indian Armed Forces. It was created in 2001 to safeguard India's strategic interests in Southeast Asia and the Strait of Malacca. Name the force.

QUESTION 3

A PSU under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence, this is the only company in India capable of manufacturing non-synthetic type welding electrodes for various defence applications. Name the PSU. It is also notable for being the only producer of this element in India. Name the element.

QUESTION 4

This attempted coup was defeated by the intervention of the Indian armed forces in 1988. After the appeal from President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Indian Army paratroopers arrived and intervened in the operation. What was the operation called? The coup happened in which country?

QUESTION 5

This was a flag flown by the President of India from 1950 to 1971. It succeeded the flag of the governor-general of India on January 26, 1950. Name the flag. The flag was a rectangle divided quarterly into blue and red quadrants. Each quadrant was occupied by a national symbol. Name the symbols.

Visual question: Identify this missile

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Hugo Chavez's 'por ahora' speech was delivered in this context. **Ans: Chavez gave the speech after the unsuccessful coup against President Carlos Andrés Pérez in 1992.**
2. Mr. Chavez's political ideology is fashioned after this 19th century statesman. **Ans: Simón Bolívar**
3. The fifth republic in the Movement of the Republic refers to this. The party was later merged into this larger party. **Ans: In 1997 when the party was formed the Republic of Venezuela was the fourth republic in Venezuelan history. The fifth republic was the republic Chavez was going to establish; the United Socialist Party of Venezuela**
4. Chavez in an address to the UN referred to this person as the 'devil'. **Ans: George. W. Bush**
5. The 2002 coup against President Chavez was captured in this film. **Ans: The Revolution Will Not be Televised (Chavez: Inside the coup)**
6. The three musketeers of the pink tide were Hugo Chavez and these two politicians. **Ans: Lula da Silva, Brazil and Evo Morales, Bolivia**
Visual: Hugo Chavez and Diego Maradona protested against this event. **Ans: The presence of President George Bush at the 4th Summit of the Americas**
Early Birds: Bijo Paul| Bishal Das| K. N. Viswanathan

Word of the day

Repudiate: cast off; refuse to acknowledge, ratify, or recognise as valid; reject as untrue, unfounded, or unjust

Synonyms: renounce, disown

Usage: *She repudiated the accusations made against her*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/repudiatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /rɪˈpjuːdɪeɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Marks card racket uncovered; five persons arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the CCB on Tuesday uncovered a marks card racket and arrested five persons who were operating from a private educational institute offering any degree without coaching or examination for a price, ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh.

The accused have been running Venkateshwara Institute from Mahalakshmi Layout with two branches in Kodigehalli and Marathahalli, for the last few years.

Based on a complaint, three special teams raided the three premises simultaneously and arrested the accused.

The racket came to light few days ago when a woman approached the institute, seeking admission for BCom correspondence course in November first week. The staff asked her to pay ₹1 lakh for the course fee and took an advance fee of ₹40,000 and promised to issue degree certificates without exam or conducting any classes.

The victim, was baffled with the response and returned home. A few days ago, she got a shock as she received two years course completion certificates from a reputed college. When she contacted the institute, the staff demanded the remaining amount to issue the final year's certificate along with the convocation certificate.

Taken aback, she approached the cybercrime police, and filed a complaint.

'Rapid road' on OMR to be opened tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 500-metre stretch of 'rapid road' on Old Madras Road in C.V. Raman Nagar will finally be thrown open for traffic on Thursday, after missing earlier deadlines.

The pilot project was supposed to be completed in three days, but it took 13 days for completion.

The road sees a large volume of traffic every day including inter-State transport vehicles.

The repair work was announced on November 23.

The work comprised the fabrication of concrete slabs (20 feet in length and 5 feet in width) which would be embedded on the road after being prepared in a factory, and also the repair of footpaths and ramps.

Civic body officials had told *The Hindu* last week that the work was completed according to the earlier deadline, but only small works were left which delayed the opening for vehicle movement.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 07	
RISE 06:29	SET 17:53
RISE 17:14	SET 05:35
THURSDAY, DEC. 08	
RISE 06:30	SET 17:53
RISE 18:02	SET 06:27
FRIDAY, DEC. 09	
RISE 06:30	SET 17:54
RISE 18:52	SET 07:21

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
26°C The weather will be mostly dry. Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
23°C A pleasant and gusty winds to prevaill. Night will be cool. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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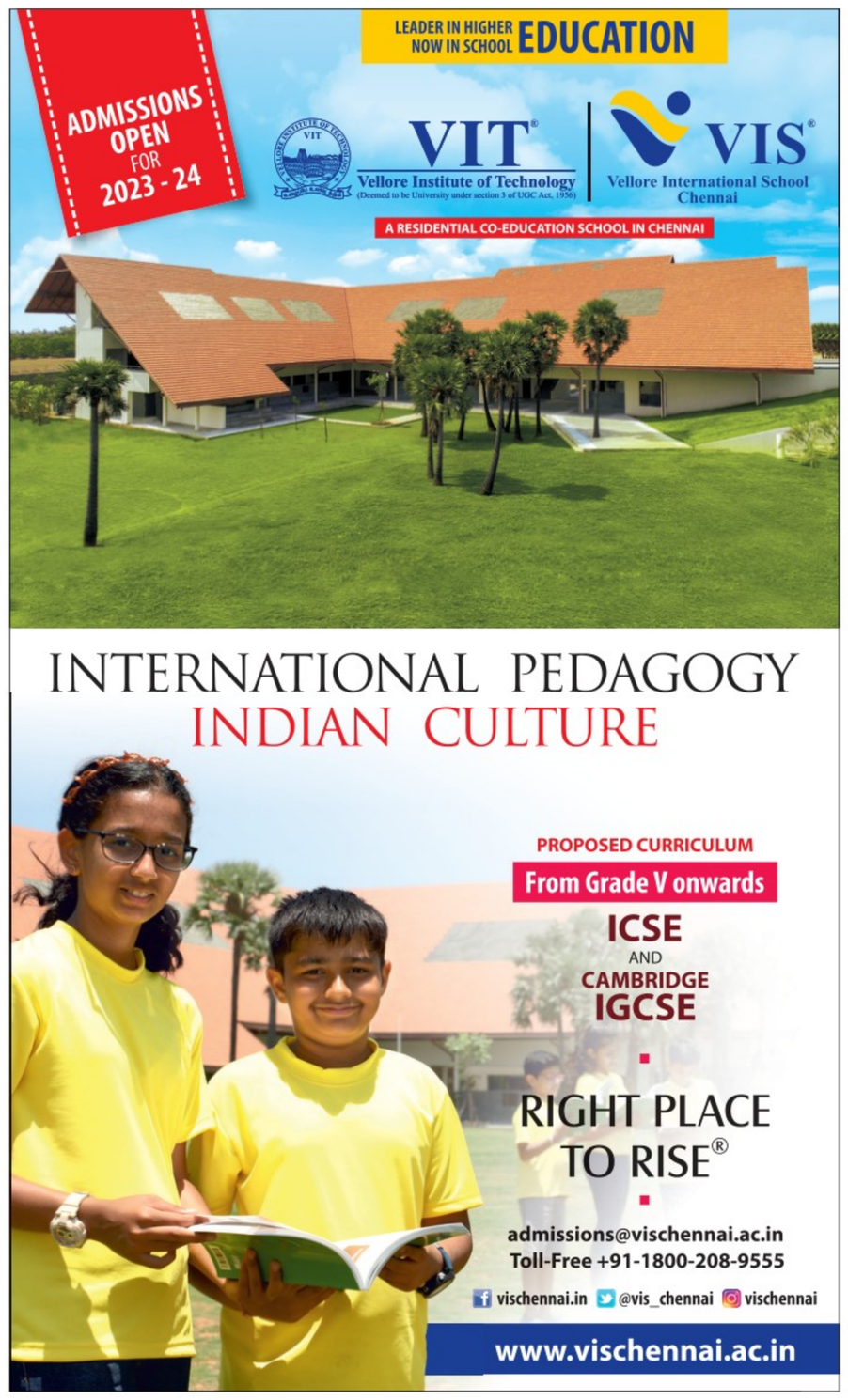

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इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

Zonal Office, 4th Floor, East Wing
Raheja Towers, No.26, 27 M G Road
BANGALORE – 560 001
PH: 080-22958899

Notice Inviting Offers

Indian Bank, Zonal Office, Bangalore invites sealed offers from owners willing to offer on lease basis office premises, PREFERABLY in ground floor, for opening of their branch with ATM facility at Nelamangala (about 1500 sq.ft. Carpet area). For eligibility criteria, application form, and other details, refer to website http://www.indianbank.in/tender.php

Late date: 22.12.2022

Sd/- ZONAL MANAGER

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, BBMP, Rajarajeshwarinagar Zone, Bengaluru -560 091.

No: BBMP/SADH/RRN/TEN/PR/03/2022-23 Date: 06.12.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Rajarajeshwari Nagar Zone), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for maintenance of Parks in Karnataka.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Est. Cost (in Rs.)	Category
1	Landscape Development and maintenance of Dr. Rajkumar Punya Bhoomi to Nagarabhavi Ravi Gym Road median.	**Rs.150.00 Lakhs**	Others

Stipulated period of Completion: 12 Months

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-Procurement Portal from **07.12.2022 onwards.** 2) Tender Closing Date: **17.12.2022 at 4:00 p.m.** 3) Technical Bid Opening Date: **19.12.2022 at 11:30 a.m.** 4) Financial Bid Opening date: **24.12.2022 at 11:30 a.m., if possible.**

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit e-Procurement portal website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and also on the BBMP website: **www.bbmp.gov.in**

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Rajarajeshwari Nagar Zone)

THE HINDU

OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

Mahatma Gandhi University
Priyadarsini Hills, Kottayam - 686560, Kerala. Tel: 0481 - 2731007

116629/AD A7-2/2021/AD A 7 26.11.2022

RENOTIFICATION FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR

Ref.: Notification No.116629/AD A7-2/2021/AD A7 dated 13.09.2021

The Inter University Centre for Biomedical Research and Super Speciality Hospital (IUCBR & SSH) Thalappady, (under Mahatma Gandhi University) Kottayam Kerala invited applications/nominations for the post of **Director**.

Qualification: Ph.D. in any Life Science discipline or MD in an allopathic medical speciality with minimum 15 years research experience in biomedical research.
Scale of Pay: UGC pay band for professor(Academic Level 14) + other eligible allowances.
Period of appointment: 5 years.

Last Date of receiving application: 30.12.2022 For details, visit :**www.mgu.ac.in**

PRO(I)/Advt/41/2022-23 **Sd/- Registrar**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TIRUPATI
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान तिरुपति
IIT TIRUPATI
Yerpedu - Venkatagiri Road, Yerpedu Post, Tirupati District, A.P-517619

Advt. No. IITT/FACREC/SRD/01/2022 07th December 2022

Special Recruitment Drive for Faculty Positions

Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati, an Institute of National Importance invites **ONLINE** applications from Indian Nationals who belong to SC/ST/OBC-NCL/EWS/PwD category for the position of Assistant Professor (Grade-I) in various departments of the Institute. For detailed advertisement, please visit the Institute website **https://iittp.ac.in/recruitment**. Interested candidates can apply through ONLINE mode only.

Starting Date for Applying Online: 07th Dec 2022
Closing Date for Applying Online: 30th Dec 2022 ***Registrar***

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CHINMAYA VISHWA VIDYAPEETH
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- **HR Manager**
- **PRO**
- **Executive Admin**

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Senior Leadership positions are open across all areas of the University

Excellence in written and verbal communication in English is a must. A good knowledge of another Indian language is a plus.

Retired Faculty and non-teaching staff from other premier institutions are also welcome to apply. Persons with relevant industry experience can apply for Visiting / Adjunct positions.

Qualification, Experience & Salary: As per UGC/ AICTE guidelines. Ph.D. in the relevant field is an essential prerequisite for all faculty positions.Salary is not a constraint for deserving candidates

Interested candidates should upload their CV with a covering letter indicating their specialisation by clicking on the following link https://www.cvv.ac.in/careers Last date for application is 31st December 2022.

REGISTRAR, Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

INBRIEF

VA renamed as Village Administrative Officer

The State government has issued an order renaming the designation of the Village Accountants (VA) as the Village Administrative Officers in the Revenue Department. However, the payscale, responsibilities, and recruitment process will remain the same as the earlier, it said. The order said changes would be made in the cadre and recruitment rules to effect the change in the designation of the Village Accountants as the Village Administrative Officer.

Harvest sugarcane on priority, Mysuru DC issues order

As the leopard scare looms large in T. Narsipur taluk, and two deaths reported in two separate incidents of leopard attacks since last month, the Deputy Commissioner of Mysuru, K.V. Rajendra, has issued an order for sugarcane harvest on priority in nearly 40 villages coming under 23 gram panchayats. The forest authorities suspect the leopards take refuge in sugarcane fields, and therefore wrote to the district administration for the harvest as a measure to tackle the situation.

'Gujarat, H.P. poll results will have positive impact on State'

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said the BJP's possible victory in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh would have "a positive impact" on poll-bound Karnataka. Mr. Bommai was reacting to the exit polls results which indicate a clear victory for BJP in Gujarat with more than two-thirds majority, and a close contest in Himachal Pradesh. Speaking to media persons, Mr. Bommai claimed that the BJP would retain power in Karnataka. Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah said: "One State's election has nothing to do with another, he said.

Various Dalit outfits demand internal reservation among SCs

At a convention, they take strong stand against the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the Bharatiya Janata Party, in the run-up to the Assembly polls in the State next year

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The crowd at the convention hosted by Aikya Horata Chalana Samiti at the National College Grounds in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

After over a decade, several factions of the Dalit Sangharsh Samiti (DSS) came together on Tuesday, and demanded implementation of internal reservation among Scheduled Castes (SCs) as recommended by A.J. Sadashiva Commission.

Internal reservation among SCs was one of the fault lines among various factions of DSS and this is the first time several factions have unitedly demanded it. The convention also opposed reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) introduced by the Narendra Modi-led Union government and demanded that it be repealed immediately, among a litany of other demands.

Tuesday's convention in National College Grounds in Bengaluru that saw massive crowds attend turning the venue into a sea of blue, was also politically significant as the convention took a strong stand against the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), in the run-up to the Assembly polls in the State next year.

The BJP is hoping to consolidate its support among SCs and STs and the Basavaraj Bommai-led State government recently hiked reservation for SCs from 15% to 17% and for STs from 3% to 7%. The State government is also mulling over implementing internal reservation, sources said.

Ten Dalit organisations came together on Tuesday and formed the Aikya Horata Chalana Samiti, to bring back to memory the heydays of DSS. "After decades, we have united to save our Constitution and democracy. We won't stop here and will continue. We will forge ties with those who stand by the Constitution of India. Anybody who believes in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Buddha's ideology can join us, but there is no space for supporters of the BJP and the RSS," said senior leader Indhudhar Honnapura, also taking potshot at other factions who refused to join the convention.

Ramabai Anand Teltumbde, granddaughter of Dr. Ambedkar who inaugurated the convention, said the Constitution given by Dr. Ambedkar was being eroded inch-by-inch and this needs to be resisted. Justice H. N. Nagamohan Das (retd) said Dalit organisations need to stay united to make the government listen to them. "We need to come together on an ideological ground and Dr. Ambedkar's philosophy and constitution can be that common ground that we need to preserve," he said.

DSS leader Mavalli Shankar compared the incumbent BJP regime to Pushyamitra Shunga's regime, "which thwarted Buddha's revolution and drove him out of the country. Dr. Ambedkar brought back Buddha, but again the Union government is hitting back," he said.

Only 10% of GIM investments for Bengaluru, rest for other districts: Nirani

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister for Large and Medium Industries Murugesh Nirani

Most of the investments captured by Karnataka during the Global Investors' Meet (GIM) held in November would go toward various business projects located outside of Bengaluru while only a small portion would be invested in the city, Minister for Large and Medium Industries Murugesh Nirani said on Tuesday.

"About 90% of the total investments we received will be for projects outside Bengaluru city," he said. "This is part of our 'Beyond Bengaluru' strategy, to decongest Bengaluru while expanding growth of other locations in Karnataka," he said at a 'Meet the Press' event organised by Press Club of Bangalore.

He said the State attracted total investments of ₹9.82 lakh crore at the recently concluded GIM. Some 42 companies will invest outside the State capital and 15 companies will set up their industry units in Bengaluru district. A major share of these investments are from the manufacturing/renewable energy sector that accounts for 38% of the investments, green hydrogen and derivatives (33%), sunrise sectors such as infrastructure and industrial/logistics parks (95) ,while the remaining investments came from other miscellaneous sectors.

Mr. Nirani said: "We have given four to five years for companies to set up their ventures. If they fail to utilise the land allotted within that time, we will take back the land and give it to other investors." The Minister added that he was hopeful that 75% of companies would honour their investments to start ventures in Karnataka this time, against 27% in the previous edition of GIM.

He said the State's Level Single Window Clearance Committee (SLSWCC) cleared 59 investment proposals worth ₹2,627.88 crore that promises around 10,000 new jobs, on Monday. These included seven large and medium size industrial projects with investments of ₹50 crore and above. These projects cumulatively worth ₹852 crore are expected to create employment opportunities for 3,860 persons in the State.

At SLSWCC, another 48 projects with investment outlay of ₹15 crore and up to ₹50 crore were cleared. These projects worth around ₹1,000 crore would create arouind 5,000 new jobs, he said. Four other projects that involve an investment of ₹852.73 crore were also cleared and they are expected to generate 1,460 jobs.

Cabinet approval soon for govt. jobs to sportspersons: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said the State Cabinet would give its nod for direct recruitment of sportspersons in government jobs through the selection committee headed by Additional Chief Secretary (Department of Sports) and also to give Group-A jobs for Olympics and Paralympics winners who are graduates.

Speaking at a function organised to present Ekalavya and other sports awards in which Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot participated here on Tuesday, Mr. Bommai said the winners in Asian Games and Commonwealth medal winners who are also degree holders would be given Group-B jobs; those who have bagged medals in other sports events would be given Group-C and Group-D jobs. No other States has the policy of giving jobs to the sportspersons except Karnataka. Two percent of posts have been reserved for sportspersons in the Home Department, he said.

He said the government has adopted 75 athletes and would train them for the Paris Olympics. They would be given training for four years and provided facilities to continue studies. For this, the government has spent ₹10 lakh each. Mr. Bommai said "young athletes are the assets of the country and success is guaranteed if they work hard with integrity". He said a youth policy would be brought in for the development of youth empowerment and sports and they will be given due importance.

HC: Decide if BIAL is 'public authority' under RTI Act

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the State Information Commission to decide afresh whether Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) is a 'public authority' under the Right to Information Act by applying the criteria laid down by the Supreme Court.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S.Vishwajith Shetty passed the order while disposing of an appeal filed by BIAL in 2010.

BIAL had questioned the 2010 decision of the single judge, who had upheld the 2008 decision of the Information Commission declaring BIAL as a public authority and that it has to provide information to the public under the RTI Act. The Bench said that the decisions of the commission and the single judge were before the apex court in 2013 laid down specific criteria to determine 'public authority' under the RTI Act.

Observing that the matter required fresh examination, the Bench directed the commission to decide the issue afresh within three months.

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9th FLOOR, PARISRAMBHAVANAM, BASHEERBAGH, HYDERABAD-4.
Ph: 23235501/02. FAX No: 040-23299350. E-mail: tsoilfed@gmail.com

Notice No: P&P/ASPT/POWER PLANT/611/2022-23 Dt: 06.12.2022

E TENDER NOTICE

TSOILFED, Hyderabad invites E-tenders from potential and reputed Manufacturers / Suppliers / Distributors / Dealers/ Contractors for the **"Design, Supply, Fabrication, Erection & Commissioning of captive Co-Generation Power Plant consists of 30TPH Boiler, 2.5 MW Turbine with 50m3 RO & MB plant on turnkey basis"** at Oil Palm Processing Plant - Aswaraopeta, Bhadradri Kothagudem Dist., Telangana State.

Note: 1.Publish of e-tender **07.12.2022 at 3:00PM**, Pre mid meeting **19.12.2022 at Head Office @ 5.00PM**, Last Date for uploading e-tender **27.12.2022 at 3:00PM.**
2. All Details related to EMD & Tender Document will be available in e-Tender Website: **https://tender.telangana.gov.in**

-Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR - TSOILFED.

KARNATAKA STATE POLICE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
59, Richmond Road, (Gen K.S. Thimmaiah Road),
Bengaluru - 560 025. Ph: 080 - 25584102 / 25594893
Website: www.ksphc.org e-mail: eecontractksphc@gmail.com

No. EE/KSPH&IDCL/CNT/TND/62/2022-23/267 Date: 03.12.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

KSPH & IDCL invites online tender as per KTTP 2000 Act & as per Standard Tender Document KW-4 through e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** (two tender document system) for the following works:

1. **PACKAGE-01:** Construction of Administrative Block, Admission Barrack, Public Waiting Lounge, Adolescent Barrack and Hospital Block for Central Jail at Devenahalli in Bangalore Rural District. (Apt Rs.3092.40 Lakhs.)
2. **PACKAGE-02:** Construction of Convicted Barrack and under Trail Barrack for Central Jail at Devanahalli in Bangalore Rural District.(Apt Rs.3586.00 Lakhs)
3. **PACKAGE-03:** Construction of High Security Barrack Female Prison, Kitchen block and work shop for Central Jail at Devanahalli, Bengaluru Rural District. (Apt Rs.3034.00 Lakhs).
4. **PACKAGE-04**: Construction of Security Compound Wall, Internal Watch Tower, External Watch Towers, Under Ground Drainage, UG Cable and Sewerage Treatment Plant , Overhead Tank, Roads and Rising Main for Central Jail at Devanahalli in Bangalore Rural District. (Apt Rs.2717.00 Lakhs)

The interested eligible contractors may participate in the tendering process.
The details such as Tender Fee, EMD, tender documents etc., are available on e-Procurement Portal from: **05.01.2023**.
"KSPH & IDCL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reasons."
Note : Henceforth any changes / modifications in the tender will be updated only on e-Procurement portal.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/AAA/3405/2022-23 Executive Engineer - Contracts

Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur
(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Hyderabad Road, Raichur -584102
Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89 Web. www. rims-raichur.com
Email info@rims-raichur.com

No.RIMS(RGSSH)/SUP/TEND/EQP/17/2022-23/ Dated: 03.12.2022

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Supply of various equipments to Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital, Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.
1) Tender document may be download from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 05.12.2022. 2)Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 03.01.2023 upto 5.00 PM. 3)Technical bid will be opened on 05.01.2023 at 11.30 A.M.
Further information may be obtained from above office and from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and also from this Institution web site www.rims-raichur.com

DIP/Raichur/451/MC&A/2022-23 Sd/- Director
Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences Raichur

Government of Karnataka
(RURAL DEVELOPMET & PANCHAYT RAJ DEPT.)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering , Division Yadgir - 585202

No.EE/PRED/YDG/TENDER/TA-3/5054/2022-23/876 Date: 05-12-2022

e-Procurement Short Term Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Panchayt Raj Engineering Division, Yadgir here by invites separate (KW-4 Two Cover) Technical & Financial Bid Tender on behalf of the Hon'ble Governor Karnataka from the eligible civil contractor for works approved Under 5054 FOR THE YEAR 2021-22 details as below.
Works details:- 1). IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD FROM HANCHINLA TO AIKUR IN WADAGERA TQ DIST. YADGIR (KM 4.50). INDENT NO. RDPR/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT95991 2). Amount put to Tender: Rs. 1,58,28,395=87 3) Eligibility of Contractors : Class-1 and Above 4) Date of Commencement of downloading of bidding document Date: 07-12-2022 to 19-12-2022 5)Cost of Tender form and EMD : as per e-Procurement 6) Last Date to Submit bids on e-portal : Date: 19-12-2022 before 4.00 pm 7) Opening of Technical Bid : Date: 21-12-2022 after 11.00 am 8) Opening of Financial Bid : Date: 26-12-2022 after 11.00 am. 9) For more information contact Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Station Area Yadgir. 10) web site:http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in and should be submitted through e-Procurement system only
Note: - Pre Bid Meeting Date 16-12-2022 at Executive Engineer P.R.E. Division, Office, Station Road, Yadgir.

DIP.Yadagiri/343/MCA/2022-23 Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.R.E. Division Yadgir

Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board Office of the Chief Engineer
Jalamandali Compound, Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road,Dharwad-580 001 Email: kwbcen@gmail.com
Tel No: 0836-2447090

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tenders for the following works are invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria.
1) Providing Water Supply System to Saundatti Town with Renuka Sagar Reservoir as source including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 3 Years (Including 1 year DLP) through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) Mode. WORK_IDENT/3246.
2) Providing Under Ground Drainage System to Hukkeri town including Operation & Maintenance for a period of 3 Years (Including 1 Year DLP) through Design, Built, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) Mode. WORK_IDENT/3245. for Further information visit e-procurement portal. For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may please be contacted.

Sd/ - CHIEF ENGINEER,
DIPR/DWD/824/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru- 560 020

No. BDA/EE-West/work_TN-04/22-23 Date: 05.12.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDER

(Through GoK e-Procurement platform https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)
Item rate tenders are invited through e-Procurement Tendering System for the following works by the Executive Engineer, BDA, West Division, Vijayanagar, BDA Complex, Bengaluru-40, on behalf of the Commissioner, BDA, Bengaluru, from Class-I or equivalent Contractors registered with KPWD/BDA/NH/MES/Railways/BWSSD&B.
Name of the work: Providing and Laying 900mm dia RCC NP-3 Pipeline for Diversion of Sewage Water for Kommaghatta Lake in Sir M. Vishveshwaraiah Layout 2nd Block. Work Indent No. BDA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT-1529. Approx. cost put to tender : **Rs. 170.00 lakh (Excluding GST).**
For further details, please log on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or call e-Procurement Help desk on 080-46010000/22631200.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, West Division, BDA, Bengaluru
BDA/PRO/TN/27/2022-23

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, 3rd & 4th Floor,
Cauvery Bhavan, K.G.Road, Bengaluru-560009, Tel. No. 080-22273511, 22100077

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Portal)
Karnataka Housing Board invites short term tender from the eligible contractors who are empanlled & also willing to empanel in Karnataka Housing Board through E-procurement.
Last date for submission of bid : 20.12.2022 upto 4.00 PM

S.N.	Name of work
01	Development of Sites & Service Schemes in Sy.No. 54 of Block-02 (Package-1) in KRS Nisarga Layout, Ilavala, Mysuru Taluk & District in an extent of 5A - 32 Guntas. **Work Indent No:** KHB_2022-23/OW/Work_Indent 1089 & IFT No. 122/2022-23, Date: 05.12.2022. **Amount put to Tender- Rs. 3,30,77,330/-**

For further information, contact office address: **Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru, Telephone No. 080-22273511/ 080-22100077. Website : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
DIPR/CP/3410/SHIRDI SAI/2022-23 Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru.

From Page One

Maharashtra Ministers skip Belagavi visit

The police said three vehicles were stoned. The protesters also blackened some vehicles. The police took the protesters into custody and took them away.

Mr. Fadnavis said he had spoken to Mr. Bommai, asking him to ensure safe passage for Maharashtra vehicles and to take action against those damaging vehicles. He claimed that Mr. Bommai had assured him of action.

The city police took some MES activists, who protested against the State government, into custody.

Taking no chances, the police had made tight security arrangements in the wake of the scheduled visit of Maharashtra leaders.

Superintendent of Police of Belagavi district Sanjiv Patil said that over 1,000 police personnel were on duty at the 21 border check-posts and border villages.

'No change in stand'

After the telephonic discussion with his Maharashtra counterpart, Mr. Bommai tweeted: "Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde had telephonic discussion with me, we both agreed that there should be peace, and law and order to be maintained in both the states".

Mr. Bommai, however, said there was no change in the State's stand as far as the border issue was concerned and that the legal battle would be pursued in the Supreme Court.

Days after audio leak, Suriya Shiva quits BJP

He owes allegiance to BJP Tamil Nadu president K. Annamalai and accused a few in the party of interfering with Annamalai's work

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tiruchi Suriya Shiva, who was recently expelled from the post of State general secretary of the Tamil Nadu BJP's Other Backward Classes' wing following the leak of an abusive telephonic conversation he had with the party's State minority wing president Daisy Saran, on Tuesday announced he was leaving the party.

Conveying his decision on social media, he owed his allegiance to BJP State president K. Annamalai, and accused a few senior functionaries in the party of interfering with Mr. Annamalai's work and not allowing him to function effectively. He, however, did not substantiate the claim.

Tiruchi Suriya Shiva

After the audio of the call was leaked, the party's State president initiated an inquiry against Mr. Suriya Shiva, and he was removed from his post. Ms. Saran and Mr. Suriya Shiva had jointly addressed a press meet, stating that they had resolved the issue.

This incident, and the removal of Gayathri Raguramm as an office-bearer of the party's Other States and Overseas Tamil Development wing, triggered allegations about tussles between different camps in the party.

Adding weight to such speculation, Mr. Suriya Shiva, in his statement on Tuesday, claimed that L. Murugan, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and former BJP Tamil Nadu president, and Kesava Vinayakan, general secretary (organisation), Tamil Nadu BJP, were interfering with Mr. Annamalai's work through their proxies.

Calling Mr. Annamalai a "precious gift" to the Tamil Nadu BJP who had the potential to become the next Chief Minister and even the Prime Minister, he asked Mr. Murugan and Mr. Kesava Vinayakan not to interfere with Mr. Annamalai's work if they wanted the BJP to win in the State.

Rape, murder of Latvian tourist: Two get double life term

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A district court in Thiruvananthapurm on Tuesday sentenced two men, who were found guilty of raping and murdering a Latvian tourist near Kovalam four years ago to double life imprisonment until death and a fine of ₹1.71 lakh each. K. Sanilkumar, Thiruvananthapuram Additional Sessions Judge-1, pronounced the verdict against Umesh, 32, and Udayakumar, 28, of Vadakkekonam at Vellar.

The 33-year-old victim, who had a history of clinical depression, came to Kerala from Ireland along with her younger sister for treatment in February 2018. She went missing from an Ayurveda centre at Pothencode on March 14 that year. Her remains were found 38 days later.

Any methodology to check pollution in Bengaluru is a welcome addition in tender, says High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

If any methodology that would be required with the object of checking pollution in the city, such methodology is a welcome addition in any tender, the High Court of Karnataka has said while declining to interfere with the tender condition that solid waste management contractors will have to deploy less polluting vehicles for city's garbage collection.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while dismissing the petitions filed by some of the contractors, who had questioned the condition that BS-VI compatible vehicles will have to be deployed for collection of solid waste. The Bengaluru Solid Waste Management limited had floated tender for solid waste management.

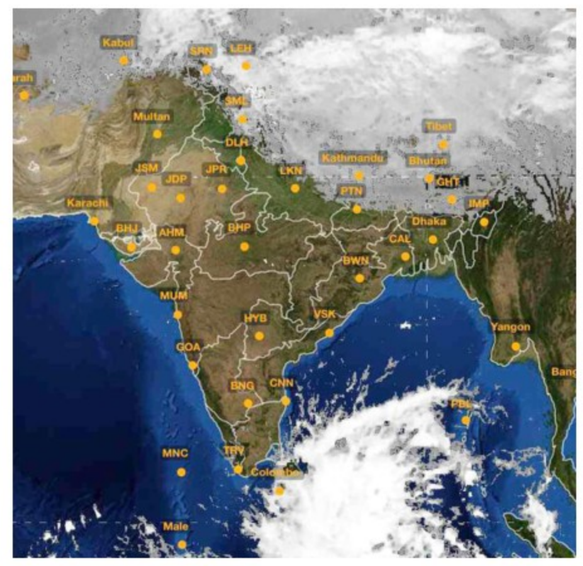
"No court can find fault with the company seeking vehicles, which would not generate pollution in the city ... Keeping in milieu clean be it by managing the solid waste or checking pollution of any city is paramount objective of a urban local body, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike in this case," the court observed while rejecting petitioner-contractors' claim that no object sought to be achieved by prescribing BS-VI compatible vehicles for garbage collection.

Noticing that during the pre-bid discussion, the BBMP and the BSWMC had clarified that even those vehicles converted to CNG can also be used, the court said it is for the BBMP/BSWMC to impose such condition that would reduce or eradicate complete pollution in the city.

The court also refused to interfere with the condition of restricting one package for a bidder and said that is for the tender inviting authority to impose suitable conditions and the courts can interfere with the conditions when they are arbitrary, whimsical or made to suit any particular bidder.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thundersquall likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands; thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.3	14.0	Kozhikode	—	34.2	24.3
Ahmedabad	—	30.2	17.8	Kurnool	—	31.5	20.7
Aizawl	—	—	—	Lucknow	—	25.4	11.5
Allahabad	—	25.3	10.4	Madurai	—	31.0	22.0
Bengaluru	—	27.4	19.7	Mangaluru	—	33.0	23.6
Bhopal	—	—	—	Mumbai	—	34.1	23.4
Bhubaneswar	—	28.7	15.7	Mysuru	—	29.0	20.0
Chandigarh	—	26.1	8.9	New Delhi	—	24.1	8.0
Chennai	—	30.3	24.8	Patna	—	25.6	12.6
Coimbatore	—	29.0	22.0	Port Blair	30.5	28.8	23.6
Dehradun	—	25.2	9.0	Puducherry	—	30.2	21.8
Gangtok	—	16.2	9.0	Pune	—	30.4	19.1
Goa	—	34.0	22.2	Raipur	—	29.7	15.6
Guwahati	—	29.4	15.4	Ranchi	—	24.6	12.0
Hubballi	—	31.0	17.0	Shillong	—	21.9	9.7
Hyderabad	—	30.9	14.9	Shimla	—	16.6	6.4
Imphal	—	26.8	13.5	Srinagar	—	10.6	-2.2
Jaipur	—	24.8	10.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.1	24.2
Kochi	—	30.8	24.4	Tiruchi	—	29.9	23.4
Kohima	—	22.9	7.5	Vijayawada	—	30.2	21.4
Kolkata	—	27.4	16.9	Visakhapatnam	—	29.9	21.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	..67	29	 60	88	.....
Bengaluru	...7	..34	34	... 129	...141	.....
Chennai	.23	..60	44	... 308	...170	.....
Delhi	.17	..47	45	... 392	...417	.....
Hyderabad	...7	..38	36	... 207	.....—	.....
Kolkata	.17	..78	56	... 268	...159	.....
Lucknow	.10	..74	95	... 210	...235	.....
Mumbai	.72	166	71	... 388	...281	.....
Pune	..—	..69	72	..... —	.....—	.....—
Visakhapatnam	.34	..48	49	... 312	...186	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Chhapra, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 398 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

Air Quality Code: Poor, Moderate, Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SRI. KN NAGARAJAN (86)

With deep regret we inform the passing away of our beloved father Sri. KN Nagarajan alias Aadhi Anna on 06-12-2022. Last rites will be performed at Pazhavanthangal Cremation Ground on 08-12-2022 between 11 am & 12 noon

Deeply Mourned by:
KN Lakshminarayanan
KN Radhakrishnan
KN Sowmyalakshmi
KN Mageshwaran
Contact 9840501192

Government of Karnataka
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department
Office of the The Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Division, Gadag
Phone: 08372-297256. Email -id :- ee.rws.gdg@gmail.com
No :943 Date: 05.12.2022

E-Procurement Tender Notification No /2022-23/CALL-2

On Behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Gadag. Invites Work tender from eligible Contractor related to RDWS & Sanitation Division, to the Gadag District, as mentioned in the Bid document of Indent no (**RWSSD/2022-23/WS / WORK_INDENT NO 46143/ CALL-2**), The eligible bidders are required to submit through E-Procurement mode through portal **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Tenders are invited through E-procurement Portal.
(1) Starting Date & Time to upload the Bid : **06.12.2022** Time 11:00 AM (2) Last Date & time for Quiries : **07.12.2022** Time 05:00 PM (3) Pre bid meeting Date : **08.12.2022** Time 11:00 AM (4) Last Date & Time to upload the Bid : **15.12.2022** Time 05:00 PM (5) Technical Bid Opening of E-Tender : **17.12.2022** Time 11:00 AM (6) Financial Bid Opening of E- Tender : **20.12.2022** Time 11:00 AM
Name of the work : Operation and Maintenance Works to DBOT of Multi-Village Drinking Water Supply Scheme to Villages/Habitations in Gadag, Mundargi & Shirahatti Taluks of Gadag District including Bulk water to Mundargi Town - Package 2, Karnataka. Aproximate Cost Rs. **845.57** Lakhs, Earnest Money Deposit (As per actuals) **: 12.69** lakhs
More details can be had from this office and also through **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** by clicking **List of Tenders** which will link to all Dept. works list.
DIPR/GADAG/MCA/477/2022-23
Sd/- Executive Engineer RDW&S Division, Gadag,

Government of Karnataka
Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Davanagere
No.EE/RWS& SD/DVG/JE-1/JJM/2022-23/1065 Dt:02.12.2022

SHORT TERM TEDER (through e-procurement)

We had called the Tender for Providing Multi Village Water Supply Scheme to Santhemuddapura & Other 164 Habitations in Jagalur Taluk, Bathi, Hebbal & Other 18 Habitations in Davangere Taluk and to Kondajji & Other 10 Habitations in Harihara Taluk of Davangere District KARNATAKA STATE, INDIA through e-procurement under 2 cover system (Technical bid and Financial bid) on DBOT basis the below prescribed work. All details and tender conditions are available in e-procurement website.(www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) only.
(1) Date of Pre-bid meeting : **09-12-2022at 12-00 PMO/o Chief Engineer, Rural Water supply and sanitation Department, 'E' Block, 1st floor, KHB Building, K.G. Road, Bangalore** (2) Last date & time for tender submission : **17-12-2022 upto 5-00 PM**
(3) Date of Technical bid opening: **19-12-2022at 11-00 AM**
(4) Date of Financial bid opening : **21-12-2022at 11-00 AM**
Scheme Name:- (1) Providing Multi Village Water Supply Scheme to Santhemuddapura & Other 164 Habitations in Jagalur Taluk, Bathi, Hebbal & Other 18 Habitations in Davangere Taluk and to Kondajji & Other 10 Habitations in Harihara Taluk of Davangere DistrictKARNATAKA STATE, INDIA**under DBOTTime for completion** : (including Mansoon season): 18 months **E.M.D amount:-Rs.3,38,00,000/-**
ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/657/ ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23
Sd/- Executive Engineer RWS Division, Davanagere

Government of Karnataka
(KARNATAKA RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DEPARTMENT) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURGI-585105
No:EE/RWS&SD/Tech/2022-23/2391 Dated:-05.12.2022

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (EXTENSION OF DATE)

The tender called by Executive Engineer Rural drinking water & Sanitaion, division, Kalaburagi for drinking water supply works vide tender notification no 2031 dated 07-11-2022 has been extended Last of date for submission of bid is 07-12-2022 at 4.00pm, pre bid meeting date 03-12-2022 Opening of Technical bid is 08-12-2022 at 5.30pm and opening of Financial bid 10-12-2022 at 11.00am and the rest of conditions remains same as in the main tender notification.
DIP/Kalaburagi/921/MC&A/2022-23
Sd/- Executive Engineer Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)
IT Cell, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585102
Phone No:(08472)-256881 E-mail ID: eeitgescom@gmail.com
No: GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Comm)/EEE(IT)/AEE(IT)/AE(IT)-07/2022-23/43560-64 Date: 06-12-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement Mode only)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Ltd., Kalaburgi invites tender on total turnkey basis from eligible bidders through E-procurement portal for **"Design and Development of Enterprise Resource Planning for GESCOM"** Kalaburgi.
1) Tender Enquiry No. : GESCOM/CEE/SEE/EE/2022-23/IT22
2) Name of Company : GESCOM
The bid documents will be available in **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **07-12-2022.**The prospective bidders can obtain further details from the office of the undersigned.
DIP/Kalaburagi/926/MC&A/2022-23
Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy)., Operations, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburgi.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, BBMP, 2nd Floor, Shakthi Soudha, 13th Cross Road, 4th B Main Road, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru - 560 040. Ph: 080-22975725
No: EE(GRN)/TN/GL-27/2022-23 Date: 05-12-2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Single Cover System) - (Through GoK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru, invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
	Single Cover Works		
	Reserved for SC Category		
1	Providing borewell with pipeline work and RO plant works for drinking water supply in ward jurisdiction Marenahalli 150 **(Call-2).**	**37.00**	37,000/-
	Reserved for ST Category		
2	Improvements of footpath in ward jurisdiction roads in Ward No. 155 Nayandahalli **(Call-2).**	**30.00**	30,000/-
	General Category		
3	Maintenance works of Roads and drains in Dr|| Rajkumar Ward Jurisdiction 142. **(Call-2).**	**50.00**	1,00,000/-

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-Procurement portal of GoK. 2) Last date & time for receipt of Tenders : **14-12-2022 upto 16:00 hrs.** 3) Date & time for Opening of Financial Bid: **15-12-2022 at 16:30 hrs.**
Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or from the e-Procurement portal website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, BBMP

Govt. of Kerala
SUCHITWA MISSION
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT KERALA

G-Ex Kerala'23
Global Expo on Waste Management Technologies

GLOBAL EXPO ON WASTE MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES
Exhibition, Seminars, Innovators forums, Knowledge-Hub, Interactive sessions etc.

12 to 14th January 2023 | ADLUX International Convention Center Karukutty, Angamaly, Ernakulam, Kerala

Suchitwa Mission (SM) is the 'Technical Support Group' in Waste Management sector under the Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala. In order to congregate all related elements in the waste management sector, Suchitwa Mission is organizing a mega-event, G-Ex Kerala '23

Program : Exhibition, Seminars, Innovators forums, Knowledge-Hub, Interactive sessions etc.

Features : 100+ Stalls; 30,000 participants (10,000 per day) all pertaining to policy making, implementation and functional roles in the waste management sector of the State. Core representation from Major Industries, Hospitals, Hotels, Other Bulk Waste Generators, Business entrepreneurs, Start-up initiative aspirants etc.

This event will be the right platform for every enthusiast to showcase and market their sector related Products/ Tools/ Technologies/ Services/ Concepts & Ideas. Suchitwa Mission invites your organization to associate with us, in this mega event as Exhibitor / Sponsor.

For registration, Visit our website https://suchitwamission.org
Last Date of Registration 25.12.2022

For queries contact
gexkerala.sm@gmail.com
edsuchitwamission@gmail.com
+91 9188223320
+91 8891138523

Suchitwa Mission 4th Floor, Revenue Complex, Public Office Compound, Thiruvananthapuram – 695033. Kerala. Tel: 0471 – 2316334, 2312730

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(A wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030438)
No.: BESCOM/CGM(CA)/GM(Civil)/BC-38/2022-23/6790 Date: 05.12.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

BESCOM invites tender for the following works through e-Procurement mode only.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Est. cost put to tender (excluding GST & EPF/ESI) Rs. in Lakhs
1	Construction of N-3 sub division office and O & M Unit-9 section office of Rajajinagar Division at Rajajinagar Industrial Town, BESCOM, Bengaluru	210.00
2	Construction of building to accommodate W-8 sub-division office and NR Colony O&M unit office at Thyagarajanagar, BESCOM quarters premises at Thyagarajanagar, Bengaluru	359.00
3	Construction of one block of 8 tenement LM quarters by dismantling existing old quarters at Kudur	274.00
4	Construction of one block of 8 tenement quarters and connected development works at Kodamballi, Channapatna Rural sub-division, Ramanagara Division (Block-I)	272.00
5	Construction of one block of 8 tenement quarters and connected development works at Channapatna, Ramanagara Division (Block-III)	280.00

Eligibility of Contract License: CPWD/KPWD Class-I/II Contractor. Further details of the tender can be obtained from Website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "E-Procurement" **on or after 07.12.2022.**
Sd/- General Manager (Civil), BESCOM, Bengaluru
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912 Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

A BG-BGE

Intense engagement

India can work with Germany to bring G-20 partners together for global unity

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock's visit to India and talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar have set the stage for a more updated bilateral relationship. The two sides signed an agreement on mobility and migration that boosts travel for students, researchers and investors and businesses, and the meeting was preceded by Germany's agreement to fund renewable energy projects worth a billion Euros. The year 2022 has seen intense high-level engagement, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi made two visits to Germany – for the India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations with Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin and the G-7 outreach summit in Bavaria. The leaders also met at the G-20 summit in Bali. In 2023, Mr. Scholz is expected to be in Delhi, in spring, and again in September for the G-20 summit in India. On the multilateral stage, Ms. Baerbock, a leader of the German Alliance 90/Green party, made countering climate change an important issue where New Delhi and Berlin can cooperate at the G-20 under India's presidency. Mr. Jaishankar spoke of the need to keep pushing for UN Security Council reform, where India and Germany have been part of the 'G-4' grouping since 2005. Ms. Baerbock also walked back previous controversial comments calling for the "United Nations track" to resolve the Kashmir dispute; she told *The Hindu* ahead of her visit that she believes Kashmir is a "bilateral dispute" to be resolved between India and Pakistan only.

The substance of the relationship will be tested in continuing differences over the war in Ukraine. Mr. Jaishankar's line to journalists was that India's imports of Russian oil, a national interest necessity, remain a fraction of the fossil fuels Europe continues to buy. While this may be correct, it is also true that the European Union countries have cut all other links with Moscow, and falling fuel imports are likely to drop further once the December 5 launch of the "oil price cap" for seaborne imports kicks in. On the other hand, India's imports of Russian oil have soared to a whopping 21-fold increase, making Russia India's biggest supplier. Writing in the *Foreign Affairs Journal*, Chancellor Scholz said that the world was facing an "epochal, tectonic shift", using the term Zeitenwende or "turning point" to describe the geopolitical transition post Russia's war in Ukraine, and accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of "shattering" an international peace architecture. For India, which inherits the G-20 presidency in the year of this Zeitenwende, it will be necessary to work more closely with Germany to bring all western partners on board with Mr. Modi's plans to forge "global unity", without letting the deep divisions with Russia derail consensus on important tasks such as fighting climate change, inequality, poverty and the digital divide.

Kharge on the move

The Congress needs its leaders to stay united to be able to challenge the BJP

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge sent a tough message to his party colleagues on Sunday at the first meeting of the Steering Committee, the highest decision-making body of the party when the Congress Working Committee (CWC) ceases to exist. A plenary in February 2023 is scheduled to elect a new CWC, but Mr. Kharge acted with alacrity to make some critical appointments to keep organisational work on track in the meantime. He has asked colleagues to spend time in the States that they are tasked with. New faces are now in charge of Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, the only two States where the party is in power. With Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot making it clear that, far from vacating the post for Sachin Pilot, he would in no manner accommodate his younger colleague, Mr. Kharge and the new person incharge have a tough task at hand. A new general secretary has been given the charge of Chhattisgarh. A new member has been added to the Steering Committee, which contradicts the earlier position of the party that only the members of the outgoing CWC could be in it. Shashi Tharoor, who received 10% of votes in the election of party president, was not included in the Steering Committee by the party, citing this reason, which no longer seems valid.

The party has its task cut out going into the plenary in February and then preparing for three crucial Assembly elections in 2023, in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The Congress is in direct contest with the BJP in these States, and had won all three in 2018, though Madhya Pradesh was lost after its MLAs defected to the BJP. Party leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra has attracted impressive crowds but the party by its own admission is not expecting any electoral bump from it. Its electoral fortunes will largely depend on how quickly and effectively it gets the organisation battle ready, from the ground up. The Congress has the advantage of strong and influential leaders in all three States; its challenge lies in keeping these leaders united in spirit and in purpose. The Congress, as of now, appears to be in a position to give the BJP a spirited fight but it needs to keep its house in order. Central leaders in charge of States play a crucial role in candidate selection and managing various interest groups. The party will have to tread carefully if it is to ensure changes that can be rewarding, and avoid disruptions that can ruin its prospects.

Scenarios for the future of India, and the world

Arun Maira

is a former Member of the Planning Commission and the author of 'A Billion Fireflies: Critical Conversations to Shape a New Post-pandemic World'

Making predictions of the economic growth of nations – long term, annual, and quarterly – is a lucrative industry employing many economists, researchers, analysts, and commentators. The fast growth of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) economies was forecast by economists at the turn of the millennium. The prediction had a large impact on the public imagination and on corporate investments.

A tale on forecasting

Some industry leaders in the World Economic Forum (WEF) were wary. They recalled that economists in the 1980s, extrapolating the remarkable post-war performance of Japan, had predicted that the 21st century would be Japan's century. Few economists then had predicted the quick collapse of the Soviet Union or foresaw China's remarkable ascent. In the next decade, Japan's growth was limping, the Soviet Union was history, and China was the country investors were being directed to. China was the economic powerhouse in the BRICS projection: India, Brazil, Russia, and South Africa were the other four.

Whereas economists' forecasts do not compute the effects of social conditions and domestic politics on economic policies, strategic thinkers in the Shell Oil company, using methods of "scenario planning", had forecasted the collapse of the Soviet Union and integration of the Russian economy with the West. Shell redirected billions of dollars of investments beforehand and gained a strategic advantage over its competition.

Responding to its members' needs, WEF commissioned a "scenario planning" exercise for the BRICs countries in 2004. WEF collaborated with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to prepare scenarios for India's growth because CII had supported a similar exercise internally in 2000 and knew the methods of scenario planning.

The foundational discipline of scenario planning, which distinguishes it from conventional forecasting and planning, is "systems thinking". Scenario planning does not begin with the data. It starts with listening to diverse points of view about what is going on within a complex system at present to understand the undercurrents that will surface and disrupt predictions of economists' models.

India, especially in its year of G-20 chairmanship, needs to promote a 'Gandhian' approach of using solutions that depend on local systems to help the world get out of the 'BollyWorld'-like scenario it is caught in

Scenarios depict shapes that a country's economy may take in the future depending on changes in social and political conditions with economic growth. Systems' scenarios include subjective perceptions of poverty and inequality, and also mistrust in institutions of governance, which are "externalities" to economists' quantitative models.

Looking ahead

The WEF/CII report, 'India and the World: Scenarios to 2025' (published in 2005) projected three scenarios of India's future depending on the country's economic policies. India was in an "India Shining" mood at that time: it was celebrated as "the world's fastest growing free market democracy" to tempt western investors away from autocratic China's even faster growing economy.

The first scenario looked deeper within India's current reality at that time. Evocatively labelled "BollyWorld", the scenario revealed forces which would dampen growth in the future if not responded to in good time. The opening of India's economy had created more opportunities for private enterprises and rapid increases in the wealth of the top 1%. Millionaires were multiplying. The imported cars they owned, the expensive clothes they wore, and the champagne they drank in their parties were celebrated on "page 3" of daily papers. While entrepreneurial spirits were unleashed and young people aspired to become wealthy, signs of their increasing frustration were also visible. Violence was not restricted to rural, "Naxal" areas; petty urban crimes, many violent, were also increasing. Glamour and violence can be mixed for the entertainment of viewers of Bollywood movies. However, India's "BollyWorld" economic growth is a real story that was becoming painful for millions of citizens living in it.

The second scenario was called "*Atakta* Bharat". It showed how increasing inequality and insecurity could compel the government to impose controls on politics for security, and also compel it to play a larger role in the economy without adequate resources. A heavy-handed government would dampen India's democracy and stall its economy. In both scenarios, BollyWorld and *Atakata* Bharat, the "theory of change" is top-down. Change is led by leaders on top of large organisations in government and businesses. Fortunately, a third, and more attractive scenario was also visible. Here, the changes that people need are produced by them: by local leaders of women's self-help groups; cooperatives for water conservation, and farming and dairying; and profitable business enterprises based on local production and consumption. Such "enterprises by the people for the people", using local resources and local energies, are more sustainable than top-down, large-scale programmes. The scenarists projected that if India's policymakers pursued this model of change, economic growth would be more inclusive, more environmentally sustainable, and faster too. They called this scenario "*Pahale* India".

The rise of reactionary forces

These scenarios were made in 2006 before the global financial crisis, to recover from which governments of the G-7 took actions to save the "too large to fail" financial institutions. The G-7 enlarged to the G-20 to stabilise global financial and economic institutions. There are tensions within the "BollyWorld" model of top-down, and wealth driven, economic growth the world has pursued in the last 30 years. Increasing inequality and insecurity around the world, rising along with "free market" globalisation, have resulted in reactionary forces in many countries, including China and Russia amongst the BRICs. They have appeared in India too.

Inequalities have further increased; top-down solutions to the global environmental crisis are producing only more hot air. Violence between powerful countries deploying the latest technologies is harming millions of innocent people around the world. The Indian scenarists had pointed to a choice before public policymakers when societal tensions increase in a "BollyWorld"-like scenario the world seems caught in. One choice is concentration of power in governments and large business monopolies for imposing more security and pushing faster GDP growth. This leads to further unrest and "*Atakta*" (stalling) economies. The other choice revolves around local systems solutions for environmental and economic problems, cooperatively implemented by communities. This model solves global systemic problems; it also creates a more harmonious world.

India must promote this model in the G-20 it is hosting this year. It must also adopt this "Gandhian" approach more determinedly to make "*Pahale* India" a reality for all Indian citizens.

Delhi choking, but do not blame stubble burning alone

C.K. Mishra

is a former Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and founder, Partnerships for Impact

Every year around Deepavali, and like clockwork, Delhi's air quality makes it to the headlines. But there is a problem. You would have noticed that the noise on TV channels and even newspapers over the issue dies down after one 'strong wind speed day' and blows the debate away. Next winter we are back to expressing outrage again. As firefighters we are doing well, but as planners doing very little. While nature will not change, emissions can be reduced.

Increasingly polluted air is a hazard and a health crisis in the making, In fact, it is already one. India now reports 2.5 million air pollution-related deaths annually. Pollution not only makes our throats and eyes burn but is much more insidious. Some pollutants are so small that they are able to enter the bloodstream with ease, impacting almost every organ in the body and leading to the onset of health issues such as stroke, heart diseases, respiratory diseases and cancer, to name just a few serious health problems. It is not just about good air. It is about life.

While a lot has been written and said about Delhi's air quality, the question that still has to be answered is this: why is nothing changing after all these years?

The same orders again

A principal reason is that year after year, we are doing the same things to try and address the problem without actually trying to evaluate why those measures are not effective. The Government formed the Commission for Air Quality Management, which, unfortunately, did not offer anything new. This body essentially issued the same orders the Ministry and the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority used to, with just a slight change in the language used. Every year schools are closed, people are advised to to stay indoors, or carpool and work from home, bans on firecrackers are reinforced, construction stopped, trucks and cars not allowed to enter the city, and industries running on fuel shut. These measures, and several others, are akin to dressing a bullet wound with bandaid. Stopping people from going about their regular work is plain bad governance.

The reality is that Delhi's air is bad even when stubble is not being burnt, which points to the need for comprehensive, long-term measures throughout the year

Why Delhi's air is bad

As the haze descends over Delhi, the blamegame begins – with stubble burning in the neighbouring States being identified as the main culprit. However, the reality is that Delhi's air is bad even when stubble is not being burnt. The burning of biomass in and around Delhi, if audited properly, would be the same as stubble burning in other States. Unfortunately none of the bodies, be it the municipal body or the government's Public Works Department, is willing to take responsibility for this or address and find a solution to the problem. This is not to say that stubble burning is not a problem. Some solutions have been tried out over the years, but with little success. What is required is a fundamental shift in agricultural patterns, which needs someone to make a bold political call. Unless farmers are adequately compensated, the problem is unlikely to go away. The 'Happy Seeder'-based solution has sadly not been a happy experience. We need to acknowledge that the problem is not just Delhi-centric. For some strange reason we all talk about the airshed approach but do not spend the rest of the year trying to solve the problem. Delhi chokes on its own dust and industrial activities. Who is ensuring compliance with the rules relating to the handling of construction and demolition waste? Delhi started with much enthusiasm about roadside greening and cover. But is anyone monitoring this? Everyone seems to be looking at the data of PNG in industry, but is anyone looking at the unauthorised industries, which are a large emitter? Vehicles are another source of pollution in the city and we need to introspect why, despite an expanding fleet of public transport, citizens who primarily use two-wheelers have not moved to using the public transport system – buses and the metro. I feel the reasons for this include last-mile connectivity, the problem of crowding in buses and metros, and the inability to reach and navigate narrow lanes that two-wheelers can. The state of maintenance of buses could be another reason as well.

A no to silo functioning

We have to be creative and look beyond the measures that have already been tried and proved they are at best a short-term solution to a recurring, long-term problem. Even then a core issue that needs to be addressed is the governance system. There needs to be a single entity that takes responsibility for air quality management. We cannot operate in silos where one system of governance is responsible for thinking, a second issues orders and a third is responsible for implementation. Without an efficient system that works in a coordinated way, we will find ourselves to be in the same position years later.

The reality also is that Delhi is not the sole offender. There are many other cities in India where safe levels of air quality are breached regularly. Air quality is a problem on most days but becomes an issue around Deepavali and when stubble is being burnt. We need to take more comprehensive, long-term measures throughout the year and not just in the days and weeks when it begins to make news.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Conversions and judiciary

It is no secret that religious conversions are on the rise, with most being done in a 'deceitful' manner. The thin line between choosing faith and conversion by guile is being exploited by certain sections.

The good news is that the Supreme Court of India has stepped in (Page 1, December 6). Matters as sensitive as religious conversions need deft handling and who better to handle this than the highest judiciary of the land. The poor are perhaps the most vulnerable section.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

This country has had enough and more with religious tussles and its far-reaching consequences. It has become a practice for almost every religion to convert people by luring the financially weaker sections with some kind of ' deceit'. Our Constitution provides for the free practice of any custom. So, it is only viable and assertive on the part of the top court to look for an amicable solution.

Jayasekharan V.P.,
Payyanur, Kannur, Kerala

Perhaps the judges ought to examine the issues brought before them in the light of the Constitution and the law of the land without indulging in discourse that may send signals of bias, and thereby undermine the prestige of the judiciary. It would be a difficult task to decide in an objective manner the role of allurements in conversions. Given the partisan manner in which certain official agencies operate in the country, hoping for a neutral mechanism would be illusory.

Manohar Alembath,
Kannur, Kerala

Poll predictions

The exit poll predictions, at least in Gujarat, are an exercise of futility. The election campaign in a State where the ruling party has been in power without interruption only saw non issues overshadow the real issues. This is also a State that is polarised and the Election Commission of India appeared to look the other way in aiding the ruling party's campaign — the top leader was seen in an informal roadshow during the second phase of voting.

N. Nagarajan,
Secunderabad

Dominique Lapierre

Erudite author Dominique Lapierre lived a rich life and has left umpteen admirers, which includes me, in mourning. After reading his unputdownable masterpiece, *Freedom at Midnight*, I wrote to the writer asking him whether he could, using his name and influence, make the book affordable to the not so moneyed individual who may be interested in buying the books of renowned authors. Penned on May 22, 1982, he wrote: "Dear Mr. Natarajan, Many thanks for your most kind letter. I am happy to inform you that a paper[back] edition of our new book will be available shortly. You are very right about the exorbitant price. But we, authors, have nothing to do with this. And we do not even dispose of copies to send to our friends. With all my good wishes always."

Sd. Dominique Lapierre,
Avenue Kleber — 75116 Paris

Mani Natarajan,
Chennai

To read more letters online, scan the QR code.
Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

In Pakistan, a new army chief and old issues

D. Suba Chandran

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Lieutenant-General Asim Munir has replaced General Qamar Bajwa as Pakistan's army chief. The delay in the announcement, an unstable political situation in Islamabad, the continuing militancy in the western provinces, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) revoking the ceasefire, and tensions with the Taliban should be the immediate concerns for him. What is being projected as the 'Bajwa legacy' is likely to be his primary challenge. Lt. Gen. Munir is inheriting the old issues plaguing civil-military relations as well as those that crept up during Gen. Bajwa's tenure.

The Imran Khan challenge

There are six significant challenges for Lt. Gen. Munir. The first is Imran Khan. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Mr. Khan would not have succeeded in the 2018 elections had it not been for the establishment. 'Project Imran' should have been set in motion after Gen. Bajwa took office in November 2016 and after the Supreme Court disqualified Nawaz Sharif following the Panama Papers expose in 2017. The establishment should have decided to back the PTI as a replacement for the Sharifs' Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). Many believe that the rise of the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), its violent protests in Faizabad in 2017, and its subsequent political participation were a part of political engineering in Punjab. The TLP cut into the PML-N's traditional support base in Punjab, providing political space to the PTI. The 2018 election result was stunning: Mr. Khan won Punjab and formed the government in Islamabad. The establishment should have been elated by the removal of the PML-N from Islamabad and Punjab. However, despite proclaiming to be on the same page, Mr. Khan seemed to be on a different page. The delay in extending Gen. Bajwa's tenure in 2019 and the differences between the army and government over choosing the new Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief in 2021 showed their differences. Finally, in April 2022, Mr. Khan had to leave after failing to prove a majority against the collective political onslaught of the Pakistan Democratic Movement. He blamed the establishment and a foreign conspiracy. The fallout with the general headquarters (GHQ) was complete when the Director-General-ISI and the DG-Inter Services Public Relations Pakistan denounced Mr. Khan's anti-establishment narrative at a press meet. Mr. Khan said the denouncement was foolish and later accused a military officer of being part of a plot to assassinate him. How will the new army chief deal with Mr. Khan? In 2017, Mr. Khan did not have a wide support base outside Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially in Punjab. However, the recent results of the bypolls should hint at a new populist Khan.

Second, the PML-N and the PTI are polarised within and outside Parliament and in the main provincial assembly - Punjab. Mr. Khan has been threatening to upset political stability with yet another long march demanding early elections. So far, the Shehbaz Sharif government has failed to address the rising power and energy prices and provide flood relief. Pakistan needs a stable government. Mr. Khan wants the establishment to pressure the government to yield to early elections. However, Lt. Gen. Munir would like to have some time before the next polls as Gen. Bajwa did before the 2018 polls.

The third challenge relates to the establishment's political engineering projects in Punjab and Sindh. In Punjab, Gen. Bajwa's efforts have provided space to the PTI and the extremist TLP. The TLP undermined the PML-N vote bank to ensure that 'Punjab minus PML-N' materialises. In the forthcoming elections, the TLP is likely to participate in Punjab and Sindh, eating into the PML-N's share rather than the PTI's. Will Lt. Gen. Munir be able to put the TLP genie back? In Karachi, during Gen Bajwa's tenure, the establishment broke the Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM). The MQM stands factionalised today and there are already discussions about bringing the factions together before the next elections. While it was easier for the outgoing army chief to stay out of politics, this is unlikely to be an easy call for the new chief.

The fourth challenge is to repair the establishment's image. Earlier, the intelligence agencies could control and manipulate the media, but now individual news portals and those on social media question the establishment's control. A case in point is the recent expose about Gen. Bajwa and his family's economic fortunes. Despite brazen attacks on them, some journalists and media houses have been questioning the role of intelligence agencies in disappearances and attacks against them.

Militancy challenges

The last two challenges are from the western provinces and the Durand Line. The political protests in Gwadar in Balochistan are linked with the Baloch middle class's fears about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor than with ideological violence led by the Baloch militants. The TTP continues to operate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as seen from the recent violence in Swat Valley. On November 28, the TTP finally announced withdrawing from the ceasefire and has asked its cadres to carry out attacks whenever and wherever. Addressing militancy and a ceasefire with the TTP should have become two primary legacies of Gen. Bajwa; now, they stand as a challenge to Lt. Gen. Munir. The return of the Taliban in Kabul has not made the Durand Line easier for the establishment. The closures in the border points underline the uneasy GHQ-Taliban relationship.

To sum it up, Gen. Bajwa leaves a challenging legacy for Lt. Gen. Munir. Will the new army chief leave a better legacy for his successor or continue to muddle through?

What is being projected as the legacy of the outgoing army chief Gen. Bajwa is likely to be the primary challenge for the incoming Lt. Gen. Asim Munir

The change in the AAP's messaging

How the party slowly began to look like its main challenger

STATE OF PLAY

Sobhana K. Nair & Nikhil M. Babu
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The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) burst onto the political scene in Delhi as an anti-corruption crusader. After winning the Assembly elections in Delhi in 2015 and again in 2020, the AAP went on to form the government in Punjab this year and is trying to expand its presence across the country. In terms of political messaging, though, the AAP has travelled a great distance from its conception.

During its initial years in power, anti-corruption was the AAP's anthem. In his first, brief stint as Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal launched a helpline number asking people to report government officials who asked for bribes. Mr. Kejriwal, his deputy Manish Sisodia, and other Ministers held 'janata darbars' (public meetings) to address people's grievances. The anti-corruption branch of the Delhi government worked overtime to cleanse the Augean stables. But these experiments did not last long as there was overwhelming response from an aggrieved electorate.

Today, as the party is under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED), a voter may find it difficult to distinguish it from other political outfits. The party's image as a prophet of probity is somewhat stained. A Cabinet Minister, Satyendar Jain, is lodged in prison and is facing trial in a money laundering case. Mr. Sisodia is being investigated by the CBI in connection with an alleged liquor scam in Delhi. And as per an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) of the affidavits filed for the Gujarat elections, the AAP fielded the highest number of candidates with criminal cases (61) as against the Congress's 60 and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s 32. In a similar analysis for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) elections, the ADR found that 45 of the AAP's candidates have criminal cases against them, against the BJP's 27 and the Congress's 25.

Defending the party, Mr. Kejriwal has said all these cases have been foisted on his party members by the BJP. In various interviews, he has stated that the CBI charge sheet in the alleged liquor scam recently filed in a Delhi court does not name Mr. Sisodia. "They claimed he is the kingpin. If that is the case, why would you skip naming the kingpin in the charge sheet," he asked. The Chief Minister claims that the BJP will continue to launch such "meaningless" investigations against the AAP, but has found no evidence so far to prove any wrongdoing by the AAP.

The anti-corruption agenda does not occupy central space in the AAP discourse any more. While it has not been entirely eliminated, there is a visible shift in the party's language. In the last few months, the speeches of AAP leaders have oscillated between focusing on the so-called Delhi model of development and Hindu symbolism, where they are in competition with the leaders of the BJP.

While this may have grown louder in recent months, ahead of the Gujarat elections, the journey towards this end had begun with the AAP's third innings in Delhi. Ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections in 2020, Mr. Kejriwal's recital of the Hanuman Chalisa hit the headlines. In his victory address to party workers, he invoked Hanuman saying, "This is the day of Lord Hanuman who has blessed the people of Delhi. We pray that Hanuman Ji keeps showing the right path to us so that we continue to serve people for the next five years." In March 2021, Mr. Kejriwal announced that he will send senior citizens in Delhi for a free pilgrimage to the Ram temple in Ayodhya; and in October, the Delhi cabinet added Ayodhya in the Delhi government's free pilgrimage scheme, the Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojna, for senior citizens. In the last few months, the AAP's comments on the Rohingya and Mr. Kejriwal's suggestion that the pictures of the Hindu deities Lakshmi and Ganesha be printed on currency notes to pull the country out of the current economic rut caused a stir. "I am a Hindu, what else will do if not Hindutva," Mr. Kejriwal said to a TV channel.

These efforts are clearly directed at challenging the BJP while occupying a space within the ideological boundaries set by the BJP. The AAP is using this strategy keeping Gujarat, especially, in mind. But given how the party has changed its messaging drastically from the first time that it came to power, the question is whether it will be able to defend its turf in Delhi in the next Assembly elections, slated for 2025, and expand beyond Delhi and Punjab – all while looking only mildly different from the BJP.

2022: A great year for Indian chess

Propelled by youngsters, India has become the new chess superpower

DATA POINT

Srinivasan Ramani

It has been a great week or so for Indian chess. On Tuesday, 16-year-old Aditya Mittal crossed the coveted 2500 Elo-point mark in the sixth round of the El Llobregat Open Chess Tournament after having achieved his third Grandmaster (GM) norm earlier this year. This set him up to become the country's 77th GM just days after GMs Nihal Sarin and Arjun Erigaisi went on to win the Rapid and Blitz events at the prestigious Tata Steel Chess India tournament in Kolkata. WGM R. Vaishali also came up with a facile victory in the Blitz women event in the same tournament, defeating stronger opponents.

Nihal and Arjun's performances were praiseworthy as the field included two top 10 players in U.S.: GMs Hikaru Nakamura and Wesley So. Nakamura, the World No. 1. in the blitz version of the game, slipped to No. 2 after the Tata Steel event, falling twice to Arjun. Arjun's performance in the blitz event catapulted his live Elo ratings to 2773.8, good enough for the 10th spot in the live world rankings (see **Table 1**).

This year has been a good one for elite Indian chess players. Grandmasters D. Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi joined veteran GM V. Anand, GM Vidit Gujrathi and GM P. Harikrishna in the 'Super GM' 2700 Elo ratings club. This is the first time India has five Super GMs. GMs Praggnanandhaa, Nihal and S.L. Narayanan improved their ratings to the high 2600s. That Gukesh, Arjun, Praggnanandhaa and Nihal are still teenagers and rank 2, 3, 7 and 9, respectively, in the FIDE juniors list suggests that their best is yet to come.

Gukesh and Arjun had the most meteoric rises in 2022, with the former gaining more than 100 points after playing 127 games and the latter garnering 90 points in 144 games so far. Both players won gold medals in their respective boards in the Chess Olympiad playing for India-1 and India-2, respectively. Praggnanandhaa had a steadier rise, gaining 72 points in 93 games while GMs Vidit, Narayanan and Nihal made marginal improvements in Elo ratings in 60, 84 and 113 games, respectively. GM Harikrishna's rating fell marginally by 12 points over 66 games, while Indian stalwart and FIDE deputy president, Anand, 52, played sparingly, gaining three Elo points in nine games. (See **Chart 2** for ratings progression of the top-rated Indian players other than Anand in 2022.)

As of December 1, 2022 in FIDE's official list, 1,779 players had achieved the GM title in the world of which 74 were from India. Aditya is set to be ratified as the 77th in the forthcoming list. Russia topped the tally with 234 GMs followed by the U.S. with 105, Germany with 96 and Ukraine with 87 (See **Table 3**). Only Russia with eight and the U.S. with seven (which include a few who shifted from other countries) have more GMs with a rating above 2700 than India (five).

Eight Indians are now in the top 100 (See **Table 4**) in the classical version of the game. Four of them are the aforementioned juniors. The significant improvement of the youngsters has also raised the median and average Elo ratings of the top 10 Indians to 2695 and 2694, respectively, from 2650 and 2667 only a year ago (See **Table 5**). The chess boom in 2022 in India has been driven by spectacular performances from the youngsters both in on-the-board and online events (GM Praggnanandhaa defeated World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen more than a few times in rated online games). This augurs well for the medium-term outlook for the game in the country.

A young man's game

The data are sourced from FIDE and 2700chess.com. The tables and chart show how more younger Indian players are joining the Grandmaster (GM) club in chess

TABLE 1 | The table shows the top 10 blitz players based on their live Elo ratings

Ranking	Full name	Country	Live rating	Age
1	Alireza Firouzja	France	2904	19
2	Hikaru Nakamura	U.S.	2884	34
3	Fabiano Caruana	U.S.	2847	30
4	Magnus Carlsen	Norway	2830	32
5	Levon Aronian	U.S.	2809	40
6	Vladislav Artemiev	Russia	2803	24
7	Daniil Dubov	Russia	2792	26
8	Anish Giri	Netherlands	2792	28
9	Ian Nepomniachtchi	Russia	2782	32
10	Arjun Erigaisi	India	2773.8	19

CHART 2 | The chart shows the ratings progression of the top-rated Indian players

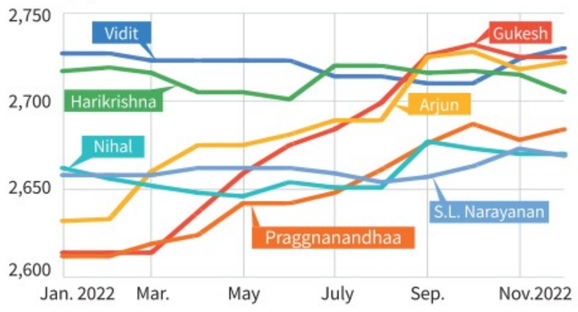

TABLE 3 | The table lists the number of GMs with Elo ratings above 2700 in select countries

Country	No. of GMs	GMs with Elo>2700
Russia	234	8
U.S.	105	7
Germany	96	0
Ukraine	87	1
India	74	5
Spain	56	1
France	54	2
Hungary	51	0
Serbia	50	0
Poland	50	1
China	48	4

TABLE 5 | The table shows the median and average ratings of India's top 10 players at the end of each year

Year	Median rating	Average rating	GMs with Elo>2700
2022	2695	2694	5
2021	2650	2667	3
2020	2646	2670	3
2019	2647	2666	3
2018	2669	2663	3

TABLE 4 | The table shows the rankings and Elo ratings of the top 10 Indian players at various events

Player name	Classical Ranking	Classical Elo	Rapid Elo	Blitz Elo
V. Anand	9	2754	2731	2733
Vidit Gujrathi	18	2730	2660	2680
D Gukesh	24	2725	2637	2627
Arjun Erigaisi	26	2722	2649	2774
P Harikrishna	37	2705	2646	2617
R Praggnanandhaa	51	2684	2587	2623
Nihal Sarin	70	2670	2655	2694
SL Narayanan	71	2669	2605	2562
SP Sethuraman*	111*	2642	2542	2543
K Sasikiran*	122*	2635	2570	2567

live ratings unless asterisked

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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 7, 1972

Kerala CM urges less emphasis on degrees for jobs

Trivandrum, Dec. 6: The Kerala Chief Minister, Mr. C. Achutha Menon, yesterday urged for greater attention to post-SSLC non-collegiate education than it had received so far. This would help produce a new generation of really useful, energetic and hard working boys and girls who could do the jobs entrusted with them for the building up of the country. This would also give the much needed relief to the universities," he said. The Chief Minister was inaugurating the five-day inter-university youth festival here sponsored by the Kerala University Students Union. About 200 delegates from 20 universities are participating in the festival. Mr. Menon said the rush for university education was mainly due to the fact that job opportunities were dependent on the educational qualification of the applicant. He said it was necessary to disabuse the minds of the people at large of the real value of a degree. They should consciously and systematically try to "denigrate" or "debunk" degrees. The employment agencies, Government or private, should set no value on degrees, but give recognition to real attainments and experience. He confessed that Government departments and public sector undertakings which insisted on degrees while prescribing qualifications, were the worst sinners in this respect. The recruitment policy was such that the graduate always got preference over the non-graduate even for clerical jobs and this state of affairs had to be remedied, he said. Mr. Menon also wanted the opportunities for technical training available to SSLC holders to be expanded. There was much truth in the complaint that holders of ITI certificates and diplomas were not really skilled but were only clerks with technical certificates.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 7, 1922

The I.M.S.

London, Dec. 5: The India Office has issued a correction to the terms of recruitment of Europeans to the Indian Medical Service as cabled on the 3rd instant. According to the correction a Lieutenant will start at Rs 650 per mensem, not Rs. 550 and a Captain will start at Rs. 800 instead of Rs. 100.

From Page One

World Bank revs up growth hopes to 6.9%

The effect is about around 1.5 times larger for other emerging economies, and the result is similar for growth spillovers from the EU and China.

Dhruv Sharma, senior economist at the Bank and lead author of the report, said that a well-crafted and prudent policy response to global spillovers is helping India navigate global and domestic challenges. The report, however, cautions about trade-offs between trying to limit the adverse impact of global spillovers on growth and the available policy space. Like its COVID-19 response, the Indian government's response to the external shock combined demand-side and supply-side policies, with both fiscal and monetary policy levers deployed, the report noted.

"The RBI's gradual withdrawal of liquidity and policy rate hikes have been aimed at anchoring inflation expectations. However, this has increased borrowing costs, which, along with elevated input prices, have potentially constrained private investment. The central bank's management of short-term volatility in exchange rates has contributed to a decline in reserves, though they are still at a relatively high level," it pointed out.

Strong revenue growth would largely offset India's higher subsidy bill and lower fuel taxes, but these measures have slowed the pace of fiscal consolidation. "The confluence of multiple challenges on the external front poses a challenge to India's growth trajectory, but balanced policymaking..., will help India navigate global headwinds." A widening goods trade deficit, driven by rising imports and softening exports, has expanded current account deficit to 2.8% of GDP in Q2 from 1.5% in the first quarter, the Bank said, adding that India scores better than only the Philippines and Thailand on this metric. However, the trade deficit will be "somewhat offset by resilient services trade surplus", it stressed.

Yuan Wang 5, surveillance vessel of China, re-enters Indian Ocean

Voyage coincides with the planned Indian long-range missile test between December 15 and 16; Chinese presence in Indian Ocean began in 2008 under the garb of anti-piracy operations in Gulf of Aden, and has maintained continuous occupancy

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

On the lookout: The research and survey vessel *Yuan Wang 5* has powerful equipment for gathering a wide range of data. FILE PHOTO

The Chinese research and survey vessel *Yuan Wang 5* has re-entered the Indian Ocean in what coincides with a planned Indian long-range missile test on December 15 or 16. In a similar incident last month, another vessel, *Yuan Wang 6*, entered the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) coinciding with a planned Indian missile launch, but the launch was then deferred.

According to the maritime vessel-tracking portal marinetraffic.com, *Yuan Wang 5* had entered the IOR through the Sunda strait, off Indonesia, late in the evening of December 4. The vessel was in the IOR last month.

As per the open-source intelligence handle on Twitter@detresfa, India had issued a NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) for a no-fly zone over the Bay of Bengal for a possible missile launch with a window between December 15 and 16, for a maximum distance of 5,400 km. Given the range, it is likely to be the test of the Agni-5 intermediate range ballistic missile.

While research activities are allowed on international waters as per international regulations, the data generated had a dual nature, including military, and on many occasions, the motive of the Chinese vessels seemed doubtful, defence officials had said.

Diplomatic clash

In August, the docking of *Yuan Wang 5* at Hambantota in Sri Lanka had created a major diplomatic situation between India and Sri Lanka.

Last week, Navy chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar said that there were a lot of Chinese ships which operated in the region. He added that there were four to six Navy ships, research vessels and fishing vessels apart from 60-odd ships of extra-regional forces, and as a resident power, the Indian Navy kept track and ensured that "they do not undertake any inimical activities".

As reported by *The Hindu* earlier, there had been a steady rise in the deployment of Chinese research vessels in the IOR, and the general area of deployment observed was around 90-degree east ridge and southwest Indian ridge.

The research or survey vessels have powerful equipment for snooping and gathering a range of data.

The Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean began in 2008 under the garb of anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden and have since maintained continuous presence in the region, even deploying nuclear attack submarines (SSN) on occasions.

China had since set up a military base in Djibouti and developed several dual-use ports in the IOR in Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Pakistan and other countries.

SC asks if Michel can be in custody for over 4 years

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court asked the government on Tuesday whether it can keep Christian Michel James, the alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland chopper scam, in custody because he is a foreign national brought to India through extradition.

The court asked whether the fact that he was a foreign national brought to India through extradition would justify the "complete deprivation of his liberty". A Bench led by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said had he been an Indian national, the court would have been inclined to grant bail.

Michel was arrested and extradited on December 4, 2018.

Michel's lawyers, advocates Aljo Joseph, Sriram Parakkat and M.S. Vishnu Shankar, argued that he should be granted bail under Section 436A of the Code of Criminal Procedure as he has completed as an undertrial 50% of the required prison sentence he would have got had he been found guilty.

Curbing terror financing key to security, says NSA

On Monday, the U.S. Special Envoy for Afghanistan Tom West met with the Deputy NSA Vikram Misri and Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) point-person Joint Secretary J.P. Singh. On Thursday, the U.K. Prime Minister's special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Nigel Casey will hold similar meetings in Delhi. In addition, New Delhi has intensified its engagement with the Taliban regime, with the head of the Indian Mission in Kabul meeting with its "Interim" Ministers last week to discuss restarting Indian projects in Afghanistan.

'Kangaroo court' puts a price on union of love

"In our village, people have had love marriages before too. But these penalties started with my marriage after Arignar was made the community head. That was a huge amount. They threatened to disconnect our water and electricity connection. We were unable to fight and our families paid up ₹25,000 each," Mr. Pradeep said.

"I even told my uncle, who was then posted at Mathur Police Station, but he suggested that I pay and let go of any conflict," he narrated.

The 'kangaroo court' runs on patriarchal diktat. Its administrators claim to speak for the community with the stated aim of exercising social control. Men set the agenda, and women are typically disallowed from participating. The fine of ₹25,000 is a form of enforcing social control and pushes people into penury.

Karunanidhi's son had eloped with a girl of the same community and the couple got married. When the families were about to reconcile to the elopement and marriage, Mr. Arignar's 'kangaroo court' had a sitting.

The two families were slapped with a fine of ₹25,000.

The fine pushed Mr. Karunanidhi into penury. He sold off the only milch cow he had, in order to pay the fine plus ₹600 as *thappu* (penalty upon penalty). "My cow was the only source of income. I used to get ₹500 to ₹1,000 a week," he said.

Having sold the cow, he now mixes cement on construction sites to earn a living. "I'm getting old and I can't do much manual work because of my eyesight," said Mr. Karunanidhi, who now has cataracts in both eyes. Social control is manifested in the form of social boycotts, and further penalties in the form of *thappu*.

'For public good'

However, Mr. Arignar denies the charge of holding illegal *katta* panchayats. "How can we maintain the sanctity of the social structure without social control? We need a *kattamaippu* and *kattupaadu* or else everything will fall apart. Ask anybody in the village, nobody has any complaints. We use the fine of ₹25,000 for public good – for the temple festival, and to help people during deaths in the family," he said.

According to Kathir, the director of Evidence, a civil rights organisation that predominantly takes up Dalit issues, this is a form of collective social violence enforced through unlawful assembly – *katta* panchayat and extortion by an organised mob that runs on feudal patriarchy.

When contacted, Mathur Police Inspector Murugan, claimed that there was a "political motive behind the allegations and there were no such fines," contradicting Mr. Arignar's own statement to *The Hindu*.

Central nod to Gujarat Bill allowing police to act without informing court came a month before polls

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Updated law: The Bill seeks to make violations of prohibitory orders issued under Section 144 a cognisable offence. FILE PHOTO

A month before Gujarat went to the polls, the Centre cleared a State law that empowers police officers to register cases, without informing the local court in writing, against persons who protest and agitate violating Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

Section 144 empowers the police and district magistrates to issue order in urgent cases of nuisance of apprehended danger.

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2021 was passed by the State Assembly in March 2021. It was sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to examine if it was repugnant with any Central law or deviated from the Central government's policy. The clearance to the amendment comes at a time when the Ministry is actively working to overhaul the IPC and the CrPC to remove any colonial baggage from the codes.

After holding inter-ministerial consultations, the MHA gave an opinion to process the Bill, after which it became the law in Gujarat. The Bill seeks to make any violation of prohibitory orders issued under Section 144 CrPC, a cognisable offence under Section 188 of the IPC (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant).

The statement and objects of the Bill said that the Government of Gujarat, Commissioners of Police and District Magistrates are empowered to issue prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CrPC directing any person to abstain from certain act or to take certain order to prevent disturbance of public tranquility on various occasions.

It said that police officers while deployed on such duties need to take appropriate legal action against the violators under Section 188 of the IPC.

The maximum punishment under the section is six months imprisonment.

Demonetisation was an integral part of nation-building: RBI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), while noting that it did not want to sound "pompous", declared in the Supreme Court on Tuesday that the demonetisation exercise in 2016 was an "integral part of nation-building".

"I don't want to sound pompous. But this was really a part of nation-building. There is a lot of consensus, unanimity that everybody was prepared to suffer some hardship... Some people do not agree, but that's all right," the central bank, represented by senior advocate Jaideep Gupta, told a Constitution Bench led by Justice S. Abdul Nazeer hearing the challenge to the demonetisation exercise.

At one point, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, on the Bench, reminded Mr. Gupta of the long queues outside banks and ATMs. Many were not able to access their money.

"Each bank had only limited cash which had to be distributed among its branches. There were cases when 100 people could exchange their notes and the 101st person had to come back again," senior advocate P. Chidambaram, for the petitioners, submitted.

Mr. Gupta said "some hardships may not have been anticipated, but we had everything in place from the first day". "It is not possible to take out money one day and remonetise the next day. Care was taken to see that nobody's money was destroyed unnecessarily," he said.

Pendency of 5 crore court cases a matter of grave concern, says Kiren Rijiju

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Kiren Rijiju

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Tuesday expressed concern over the pendency in court cases across the country which he said was "inching towards five crore" and has been a "matter of grave concern".

Mr. Rijiju said while pendency of cases is likely to come down in the Supreme Court and high courts, the "real challenge" was in the lower courts.

The Law Minister said the infrastructure in the lower courts is the real challenge and the Union and the State governments must work together to improve it.

The Minister was speaking at the inaugural function of Delhi High Court's 'S' Block building which was also attended by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Supreme Court judge Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Delhi High Court Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and other judges of the High Court.

CJI Chandrachud said that the judicial system and courtrooms must be democratic, inclusive and equally accessible and their design must accommodate people from diverse backgrounds, ensuring meaningful participation.

"An important component of actualising the right to access to justice is ensuring that we have adequate judicial infrastructure, including physical and digital infrastructure and personnel strength," he added.

The building of 'S' block will have over 200 lawyers' chambers, a judicial convention centre and an auditorium, a space for Delhi International Arbitration Centre, space for administration offices and parking facility, common meeting rooms, cafeteria and green spaces, CJI Chandrachud said.

At the function, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal proposed the Centre and the judiciary to make Delhi a pilot for bringing down case pendency.

Two months after notifying new norms, wait list for adoption shrinks to 644

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Among the host of reforms are pre- and post-adoptive counselling sessions by NIMHANS-trained counsellors

The pendency in the adoption of children has come down to 644 from 905 over the last two months since the new Adoption Regulations were notified and in a total of 361 cases, adoption orders have been issued.

The Rules for adoption of the Juvenile Justice Act were notified on September 23 this year. The new rules empower the District Magistrates to issue adoption orders. Earlier, this power was exercised by the judiciary. The first adoption order was issued by the District Magistrate, Akola, Maharashtra on October 6.

Following the issue of the notification, over 589 children were adopted till December 5, official sources in the Ministry of Women and Child Development said. The sources said that among the host of reforms which the Ministry has brought about are pre- and post-adoptive counselling for prospective adoptive parents by counsellors trained with the help of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS).

Opt for home State

A complete health check-up is being done through the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of the child's district before processing the adoption. Changes have also been made to the Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS) online platform for adoption.

In accordance with the new rules, prospective adoptive parents can now opt from their home State or region. This has been mandated to ensure that the child and the family adjust well with each other, belonging to the same socio-cultural milieu.

Changes have also been made for children with foster families. Earlier, children placed in foster care waited for five years for adoption. Now, according to the new regulations, if the child adjusts well with the foster family, it can adopt the child after two years of fostering.

Official sources said that widespread consultations had been carried out before framing the Adoption Regulations, 2022.

Court frames charges in Lakhimpur Kheri case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra Teni, and 12 others will face trial for murder, rioting, criminal conspiracy and other charges in the case of mowing down of protesting farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri district in 2021, a Uttar Pradesh court said on Tuesday. The trial will begin on December 16.

"They have been charged under Sections 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting, armed with deadly weapons), 149 (unlawful assembly), 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder), 326 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt), 427 (mischief causing damage) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the IPC and Section 177 of the Motor Vehicles Act," district government counsel Arvind Tripathi said.

Charges under various Sections of the Arms Act were also framed against Mr. Mishra and a few others, Mr. Tripathi added.

The 14th accused has been charged under Section 201 disappearance of evidence) of the IPC.

Winter Session loaded with 25 Bills, no time for debate, says Opposition

Effectively, there are only 56 hours available to debate these many pieces of legislation, says Congress; party demands discussion on appointment of Election Commissioner Arun Goel and reservation for economically weaker sections

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

With 25 Bills, including two financial Bills, listed for the 17-day Winter Session of Parliament, the Opposition parties have expressed concern about the limited time available for any meaningful debate on them. At an all-party meeting on Tuesday, they said there would be even less time available to raise other relevant issues.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi skipped the meeting, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired it in his absence. Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha Piyush Goyal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi were present. The meeting is called before every session to discuss the legislative agenda. The Winter Session begins on Wednesday and will go on till December 29.

Most parties said the government was trying to hurry through the debates on important legislation. "If we are to remove the time required for procedural stuff, Zero Hour, Question Hour and so on, effectively there are only 56 hours available to debate 25 Bills. This is deeply problematic," Congress Whip in the Rajya Sabha Syed Naseer Hussain said. Many other parties echo this view.

Curtain raiser: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal with leaders of DMK and other parties after the meeting on Tuesday. R.V. MOORTHY

EC appointment

The party demanded a debate on the appointment of former IAS officer Arun Goel as Election Commissioner, against the backdrop of the Supreme Court's observation in November that the appointment was made in a "tearing hurry".

The Congress also demanded a discussion on the 10% reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections. The party had initially welcomed the Supreme Court judgment allowing the quota, but revised its stand after its allies such as the Dravida Munnetra Kazgham made forceful arguments against it.

The Trinamool Congress, which was represented by its floor leaders in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, Sudeep Bandhopadhyay and Derek O'Brien, respectively, raised the issue of long-pending dues to the States.

The Congress and several other parties questioned the scheduling of the session during Christmas. Congress floor leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said, "I am not asking for curtailing the session, but the Winter Session should have started earlier so that people could celebrate it [Christmas]."

Mr. Joshi dismissed the contention that the BJP government was wilfully ignoring Christmas. "There will be a holiday on December 24 and 25 as it is a weekend. It is not fair to say that we will not work after December 25," the Minister said.

Reintroduce women's reservation Bill: parties

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The long-pending women's reservation Bill should be reintroduced in the Winter Session of Parliament beginning Wednesday, several parties, including the Trinamool Congress, Janata Dal(U) and Shiromani Akali Dal, demanded at a meeting of the Lok Sabha Business Advisory Committee chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

The Bill seeks to reserve one-third of seats in the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies for women.

INBRIEF

Congress leaders pay floral tributes to B.R. Ambedkar

Top Congress leaders on Tuesday paid tributes to B.R. Ambedkar on his death anniversary, with party chief Mallikarjun Kharge taking to Twitter to say that it was time to reaffirm the ideals of liberty, equality, fraternity and justice. Mr. Kharge, Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi and the party's leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury offered floral tributes to Ambedkar at Parliament complex. Leader Mukul Wasnik launched a YouTube channel, *Bahujan ki awaaz*, under the aegis of the partys' Scheduled Caste department.

U.P. supplementary Budget passed amid SP-BJP face-off

The Uttar Pradesh Assembly on Tuesday witnessed chaotic scenes with the Samajwadi Party (SP) MLAs alleging the "murder of democracy" in the bypolls held in the State a day earlier. The BJP MLAs dismissed the claims, saying the SP was creating "drama" due to a fear of losing the byelections. The BJP also questioned the SP over the absence of its president Akhilesh Yadav from the Winter Session. Later in the day, the supplementary Budget for the year 2022-23 was passed by voice vote.

Gujarat Police arrest Trinamool's Saket Gokhale over tweet

Mahesh Langa
AHMEDABAD

The Gujarat Police on Tuesday arrested Trinamool Congress spokesperson Saket Gokhale in connection with his tweet citing alleged fake news about expenses incurred for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Morbi town following the bridge collapse that killed at least 140 people. A court in Ahmedabad later remanded Mr. Gokhale in police custody for two days.

Based on a complaint filed by a BJP worker, the Ahmedabad police detained Mr. Gokhale at the Jaipur airport after his flight from Kolkata landed on Monday night, and took him to Ahmedabad on Tuesday.

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool chief Mamata Banerjee, who is on visit to Rajasthan, condemned the Gujarat government's "vindictive attitude" and contended that Mr. Gokhale had made no mistake in his tweet.

Saket Gokhale

"I condemn this vindictive attitude. He has been arrested because he tweeted against the Prime Minister. People also tweet against me... We are really feeling sorry about the situation," she added.

Start house-to-house outreach ahead of polls, says BJP chief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

BJP president J.P. Nadda concluded the two-day organisational meeting of the party with an exhortation to get ready for the election-heavy year of 2023 and the Lok Sabha election in 2024 with a "house-to-house" outreach to forge emotional bonds with individual households.

Addressing the party's national office-bearers, State unit presidents and general secretaries (organisation) of States, BJP morcha presidents and leaders in charge of the States, Mr. Nadda said forging of bonds should be such that the household saw the BJP worker as a "member of the family" who was invested in its issues.

"We should not just talk of the BJP or its ideology or hand over a pamphlet but enquire deeply about issues faced by individual members of households and how we may help them," Mr. Nadda said.

Election preparations

Mr. Nadda also reviewed preparations for elections due next year in States such as Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. He directed all State units to hold a meeting of their executive within the next week. He said that this should be replicated in district-level units of the party as well.

Presentations by State unit chiefs, specifically of poll-bound States, were made on the second day of the meeting. A review of the usual party membership programmes and other initiatives was also taken up at the meeting.

Minister flags rising crimes against Dalits

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Leader of the Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party and Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras said that incidents of crimes against Dalit community members were seeing a rise in Bihar under the Nitish Kumar government. He raised the issue during a meeting of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) on the eve of the Winter Session of Parliament.

Mr. Paras sought the Centre's intervention into the matter. In Arwal, a woman from the community was "burnt alive" along with her daughter for daring to complain to police that she was sexually assaulted, he said at the meeting.

He said the police did not act on her complaint initially and spoke about similar incidents.

Mr. Paras said crimes against the community had been "rising" after Mr. Kumar snapped ties with the BJP.

Yechury flags need to address polarisation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's declaration that India's G-20 Presidency will work to promote the "universal sense of oneness" can only be realised if the trends of increased polarisation and economic downslide are arrested, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury has said.

At the all-party meeting on Monday, he said these trends were creating deep inequalities in India.

The credibility of the theme announced by Mr. Modi, he said, is crucially dependent upon creating a society and a political structure that is based on equality for all "irrespective of caste, creed or sex", as the Constitution of India declares.

U.P. to build memorial for Ambedkar

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday announced the decision to build a memorial for B.R. Ambedkar. All parties paid tributes to Ambedkar.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 59 to 62/2022-23/SE/PHC/CHN, Jal Jeevan Mission 1) Providing Distribution Network, Providing FHTCs, and Road Restoration Works in Kunnathunadu Panchayath 2) CWPM From Thiruvaniyoor to Chottanikkara OHSR, Renovation of OHSR, Providing Distribution network and FHTCs in Chottanikkara Grama Panchayath. 3) WSS TO UDAYAMPEROOR PANCHAYATH - Pump house Extension, Laying pumping mains, Construction of OHSR, laying distribution lines, and Providing FHTC 4) Construction of OHSR , Providing Distribution network and FHTCs in Poothrikka GP, **EMD** : 1) 500000/-each, **Tender fee** : Rs. 1) 17700/- each; **Last Date for submitting Tender : 26-12-2022 03:00:pm, Phone : 0484-2360645, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

KWA-JB-GL-6-1181-2022-23 — Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kochi

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI, TIRUPATI DIST, A.P
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

ADv. No. 52/D3/CE/TTD/2022-23, NIT No.345/SE-II/2022-23 Dated 06.12.2022

Name of Works : Providing wire netting at different locations in the 2nd ghat road, Tirumala. Open Tender type, Time for completion: 12 Months.Schedule Download start Date: 07.12.2022 (05.00 AM). Download end Date : 23.12.2022 (01.00 PM) & last date for bid submission : 23.12.2022

Note : for full details log on to the website: **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/ or http://www.apeprocurement.gov.in/**

ROC No. PR4/13949/Adv. No.305/ PRO/2022, Dated:06.12.2022 — EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Rajasthan Grameen Aajeevika Vikas Parishad
(Third Floor, B-Block, Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur Phone No. : 2227723, 2227416)

File No. F.2(111)RD/RGAVP/HR Tender/2018/P-3/21394 Date : 30/11/2022

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for hiring an agency to provide services for the Human Resource on Direct contract and on Job Basis for RGAVP are invited from interested bidders upto 21.12.2022 (time) 12.00 P.M. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state; and **http://www.rajeevika.rajasthan.gov.in**. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs 7,55,00,000.

UBN:-RGA2223SLOB00170
NIB:-RGA2223A0126

Raj.Samwad/C/22/11280 — (SPM Admin)

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Seshadri Road, Bangalore-560001

No. DoA/e-Gov/CUG/Tender/2022-23 Date: 02.12.2022

Tender for Closed User Group (CUG) Mobile Telephone Connections to the Officers of the Department of Agriculture (April 2023 – March 2024) Tender Notification

The Department of Agriculture has established **742 Raitha Samparka Kendras (RSK), one in each Hobli, to provide services and information required by the farmers**. The Agriculture Department desires to provide Closed User Group Mobile Telephone Services. With the purpose of providing relevant, cost-effective, timely, responsive and accurate information and services to the farmers to enable efficient communication with/between the officers of the Department and for timely transfer of information.

DoA invites the **"Proposals"** from interested telecom service providers ("Bidders") for providing 1+1 Closed User Group Telephone Services, through e-procurement portal in accordance with the Bid Document. The Bid document containing instructions to Bidders, criteria for qualification and criteria for evaluation may be downloaded from the e-Procurement Website of Government of Karnataka ("GoK") viz. **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** and the Proposals shall be submitted as per the provisions of the tender document.

Important Details: Bid Publishing Date: **07.12.2022**, Bid submission closing date: **05.01.2023**, Opening of bid documents: **09.01.2023**, Bid Security: **Rs. 3.00 lakhs (Rupees Three Lakhs Only)** Project Proponent: **Department of Agriculture, GoK**, Contact Person: **Smt. Manjula M.N.** Deputy Director of Agriculture (e-Gov) Address: **Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Sheshadri Rd,** Bangalore - 01, Phone: **+91-80-22074138** Email: **agri.kar2022@gmail.com**

Sd/-

DIPR/CP/3409/Zen/2022-23 **Director of Agriculture & Tender Inviting Authority**

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
SAMAGRA SHIKSHA
STATE PROJECT OFFICE, KBC BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS, OPP.RAITHU BAZAR, PATAMATA, VIJAYAWADA, ANDHRA PRADESH
TENDER NOTICE

e-Procurement notice No. SS-16/34/2022-CMO SEC-SSA, Dt.06-12-2022

Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh is inviting tenders through e-procurement for supply of Bags under the scheme of "Jagananna Vidya Kanuka" to all the students (approximately **9.78 lakhs** in number) studying classes I to X in Government/MPP/ZPP/ Municipal/KGBVs/Model Schools/Residential/Aided Schools of Education and welfare departments in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the year 2023-24. For details please visit **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** from **07-12-2022** Tender/RFP form can be downloaded from website. Eligible firms are requested to upload the prescribed format as per the schedules given in the above said site. Contact No. **0866-2428599.**

DIPR 1409PP/CL, Dt.06.12.2022 — **Sd/- State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh.**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED
CIN– U40102RJ2000SGC016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)
CHHABRA SUPER CRITICAL THERMAL POWER PROJECT, CHHABRA
E-TENDER NOTICE

Online tenders are invited for 313(RVU2223WSOB01629) Collection/lifting & disposal of fly ash from 6x1000 MT RCC Main Silos/2x400 MT Intermediate Surge Hoppers (in case of emergency) of Unit#5&6, CSCTPP to CSCTPP Ash Dyke or any other designated place and spreading of the ash in ash dyke area, 306(RVU2223GLOB01641) Supply Of Spares For Natural Draft Cooling Tower (NDCT) & 315(RVU2223GLOB01643) Supply of spares for Dense phase Dry Fly Ash Handling System(existing INDURE make) and Clinker Grinder and its spares for Bottom Ash Handling System (existing INDURE make). Tender details are available on websites http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in (for e-tender), www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.

Raj.samwad/C/22/11264 RVUN/PR-3765 Dy. Chief Engineer (CSCTPP)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
"e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 26 / 2022-23

1. The Chief Engineer (World Bank Project), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below:
2. Nature of work : Bridge / Road works
3. No. of work : 03 nos.
4. Tender cost : Rs.10,000.00 (on- line)
5. Class of Contractor : A / Special Class Contractor
6. Available of bid document in the website. : From 10.00 AM of 07.12.2022 to 5.00 PM of 27.12.2022
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt.28.12.2022 at 11.30 AM
8. The Bidders have to participote in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said webiste.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, World bank Project, Odisha

B-928 OIPR-34003/11/0053/2223

Aeronautical Development Agency
(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017

Advt. Ref No. ADA:ADV-119 — 01-12-2022

WALK-IN INTERVIEW

REQUIREMENT OF PROJECT ASSISTANTS ON TENURE BASIS IN ADA

ADA invites applications for **Project Assistant-1** from meritorious Indian Nationals. Candidates who fulfil the educational qualifications & other requirements (as mentioned below) may attend the Walk-In Interview scheduled **from 09.00 hrs.** on **21st & 22nd December 2022** with duly filled-in application and testimonials. The requirements and Interview schedule are as given below:

Sl. No.	Required Discipline (Engineering)	Essential Qualification in the required discipline	Number of Vacancies	Date of Interview
1.	Computer Science/ Info. Science / Info Tech Engineering	B.E / B.Tech. in First Class from a recognized University **WITH** a valid GATE score **OR** B.E / B.Tech. **AND** M.E / M.Tech in First Class from a recognized University	22	21-12-2022
2.	Mechanical Engineering		06	21-12-2022
3.	Metallurgy		02	21-12-2022
4.	Aerospace / Aeronautical / Aero-Structures Engineering		05	21-12-2022
5.	Electronics & Communication Telecommunication Engineering		45	22-12-2022
6.	Electronics & Instrumentation / Electrical & Electronics/ Electrical Engineering		06	22-12-2022

Note: Interview may be extended to the next date incase of more number of candidates.

2. All interested candidates may log on to our web site: https://www.ada.gov.in for full text of the advertisement notification, downloading application format, general conditions and guidelines for attending the walk-in Interview.
3. Genuine queries (if any) may be sent by mail to admin-hr.ada@gov.in.

Director (Admin & HR), ADA

INBRIEF

Congress to hold dharna on Dec. 9 on farmers' issues

The All India Kisan Congress will hold day-long protests at Jantar Mantar in Delhi on Friday to press for its demands on a host of agriculture-related issues, including the key demand of making the minimum support price (MSP) a legal right, during the Winter Session of Parliament. Addressing a press conference, senior Punjab Congress leader Sukhpal Singh Khaira said that farmers had no other option but to stage a protest on December 9 as the Central government had so far not taken any confidence building initiative. "The MSP for all crops should be guaranteed using the C2+50% formula, based on the recommendation of the Swaminathan Commission," Mr. Khaira said.

Delhi HC summons Vivek Agnihotri in contempt case

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri to appear before the court and "show remorse in person" after he tendered a written apology for his tweets alleging bias against a judge who had in October 2018 granted relief to activist Gautam Navlakha in connection with Koregaon-Bhima violence case. A Bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Talwant Singh asked if. Mr. Agnihotri had any difficulty in appearing before the court in person. "We are asking him [Mr. Agnihotri] to remain present because he is the alleged contemnor. Does he have any difficulty to appear before this court? He has to be present and show remorse in person," the Bench said.

Kolkata Police summon Rawal over controversial remarks

The Kolkata Police on Tuesday issued summons to Bollywood actor Paresh Rawal for his remarks on Bengalis, an officer said. He has been asked to appear at the Taltala police station on December 12 for questioning in connection with the remarks during an election campaign in Gujarat. "This is in connection with his 'cook fish for Bengalis' comment," the officer said. The former BJP MP had said, "Gas cylinders are expensive, but their price will come down. But what will happen if Rohingya migrants and Bangladeshis start living around you? What will you do with gas cylinders? Cook fish for the Bengalis?" PTI

Human rights bodies write to CJI over Saibaba's health issue

Eighteen international human rights organisations wrote a letter to Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, expressing concern over the health of Professor G.N. Saibaba and urging him to review the order suspending his release from the Nagpur Central Jail. On October 14, the Bombay High Court ordered the release of Saibaba, who is wheelchair-bound and 90% disabled, after eight years of a procedural lapse during his prosecution. However, the next day, the Supreme Court granted an urgent hearing to the Maharashtra government's appeal and suspended his release. Saibaba was arrested in May 2014, from the campus of Delhi University.

'Forced to resign' as teacher, transwoman says she was ostracised by colleagues and abused by students

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Jane Kaushik, 27, could not contain herself when she received her letter of appointment as a teacher in a private school in the Mohammadi-Kheri area of Uttar Pradesh. After scores of schools rejected her application because of her trans identity over the past few years, one institution finally agreed to hire her and "provide an amiable working environment". She booked her train tickets immediately.

But the moment she reported for duty with her documents at the boarding school in Lakhimpur Kheri district, she was told that the only way she could continue was if she made sure that no one in the school – neither staff nor students – found out about her transgender identity. Badly in need of a job, Ms. Kaushik agreed. "But I cannot hide my body, the way I look," she said.

Within a week, she was called to the principal's office and "forced to resign" because some students and staff had "discovered" that she was a transwoman.

Jane Kaushik

Forced to resign

Ms. Kaushik was appointed a trained graduate teacher (social science and English) at the Uma Devi Children's Academy, a boarding school, after a rigorous round of interviews on November 22. She reported for duty on November 25 and on December 3, the principal forced her to resign, she said.

The school has denied these allegations and insisted that she was terminated because of her "incompetence in subject knowledge of social science". Ms. Kaushik has a Master's degree in English and a B.Ed., specialising in teaching social science.

"The principal told me that since some students and teachers had now found out about my trans identity, I should resign. I pleaded with her, requested her for hours, but she insisted that I write my resignation letter and leave the school and hostel premises that very night," Ms. Kaushik told *The Hindu*.

Ostracised and abused

She said that in the one week that she taught at the school, she was ostracised by fellow teachers, and often abused and made fun of by students, who also used slurs like '*hijra*'.

"Every time I heard or saw students doing this, I would try my best to teach them that it was not right to treat anyone this way, irrespective of their gender, and also the importance of respecting people from marginalised backgrounds," Ms. Kaushik said.

The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act became law in 2019. Since then, the State governments have, from time to time, taken measures to protect the rights and dignity of trans people. Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government formed the Transgender Welfare Board and also allowed trans people to apply for teaching jobs at government schools by identifying as trans.

After she returned to Delhi, Ms. Kaushik said that she made repeated representations to the school authorities to acknowledge her resignation in writing but to no avail. A day later, she got in touch with the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) and registered her grievance there. Following this, the local police in Mohammadi-Kheri visited the school and informed them that they cannot remove any staff without a reason.

'Incompetent'

When contacted, the school's director, Sunny Gupta ,denied that she was terminated because of her identity. "She was terminated because of her incompetence with subject knowledge of social science and given the fact that boards and pre-boards were around the corner. She is a great teacher and excellent with English. But even at interview we saw she was not able to cope with social science but we appointed her when she requested multiple times." The principal has not responded to calls and messages seeking her comment.

India holds discussion on security with Bangladesh

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The India and Bangladesh Joint Working Group (JWG) concluded talks on Tuesday, after discussing bilateral issues including the illegal crossing of the border and measures to combat terrorism, according to a statement from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

The 18th meeting of the India-Bangladesh JWG on Security and Border Management was held on December 5 and 6. The Indian delegation was led by Piyush Goyal, Additional Secretary, MHA, and the Bangladesh delegation was led by A.K. Mukhlesur Rahman, Additional Secretary, MHA, Bangladesh.

The statement said Home Minister Amit Shah met his Bangladeshi counterpart Asaduzzaman Khan on November 18 on the sidelines of the 'No Money For Terror' Conference in Delhi.

Following up on the meeting, Tuesday's meeting highlighted the "excellent bilateral relations between the two countries and reiterated their commitment to further deepen and strengthen cooperation in security and border-related issues." The Bangladesh delegation recalled the Indian contribution during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

New labour codes give a free hand to employers: unions

International workers' groups criticise Centre's policies at ILO regional meeting in Singapore, say workers demand a new social contract

A.M. Jigeesh
SINGAPORE

International workers' groups criticised the Centre's labour policies, including the four new labour codes, at the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Labour Organization (ILO), which began here on Tuesday.

India's new labour codes violate the tripartite agreements – among workers, employers and the government – and give a free hand to employers, alleged Felix Anthony, workers' representative in the APRM and senior leader of the International Trade Unions Confederation (ITUC).

Speaking at a session of the APRM, Mr. Anthony added that trade unions in India had been opposing such policies.

The power of inspection has been left with employers through the new codes, and it will threaten the tripartite system in the country, he said, adding that the workers are asking for a new social contract. "A contract with governments and employers, particularly at the national level. A contract which is based on the availability of decent jobs for all; respect of rights for all; fair wages including minimum wage; adequate and easily available social protection; respect for equality; inclusiveness and no forms of any discrimination," he said.

Policy talks: Minister Rameswar Teli meeting ILO D-G Gilbert F. Houngbo in Singapore on Tuesday. TWITTER/@RAMESWAR_TELI

Hiro Matsui, vice-president of the International Organisation of Employers' Asia chapter, said that declining productivity growth had a negative impact on workers, on the sustainability of enterprises – especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises – on economies, and on communities.

Intervening in a discussion on the report tabled by ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo, Minister of State for Labour Rameswar Teli said India had the largest youth population in the world and it was observing a technological and entrepreneurial boom with start-ups and small businesses mushrooming across the country.

He said that 90% of the workforce belonged to the unorganised sector and there were persistent challenges of low-paid jobs and poor working conditions.

Former Minister and economist Y.K. Alagh passes away at 83

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Former Union Minister and agricultural economist Yoginder K. Alagh, 83, who passed away at his residence in Ahmedabad on Tuesday evening due to ill health, is remembered for being a "democrat" and for his "inclusive approach to development".

Y.K. Alagh

"Professor Y.K. Alagh was a distinguished scholar who was passionate about various aspects of public policy, particularly rural development, the environment and economics. Pained by his demise," Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote on Twitter.

Mr. Alagh had been the Chairperson of the Institute of Rural Management Anand from 2006 to 2012, succeeding Verghese Kurien. He was the Chancellor of the Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, and Vice-Chairman, Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research, Ahmedabad.

He was appointed a Union Minister based on his lifetime achievements in academia and public policy and headed the Ministries of Power, Science and Technology and Planning and Programme Implementation.

Between 1992 and 1996, he served as the Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) where he raised non-government funding from zero to 25%, recruited 23 scholars from the finest universities around the world and as a member of the International Rectors' Group sponsored by New York University, pushed the university towards globalisation.

As the Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission during 1982-83, he reorganised Indian planning on an agro-climactic basis. From 1980 to 1982, he was the Executive Vice-Chairman of the Narmada Planning Group.

He also chaired the Expert Group on the Cauvery dispute.

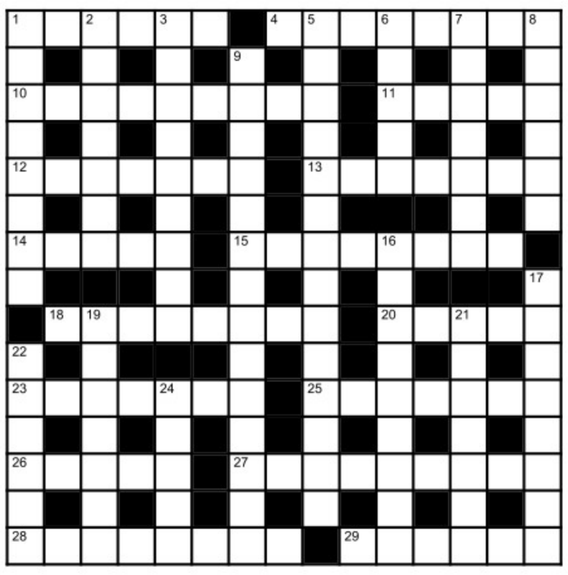
"A wise thoughtful institution builder and outstanding academic, he recruited many of us against all odds," wrote academic Amitabh Mattoo on Twitter.

TH CROSSWORD + 13730

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Stable at sea, most accomplished (6)
4 Two guards close to Chinese border - it's a huge monster (8)
10 Old master allows Mark to come in during school term (9)
11 Place to stay while heading west - impossible to hide inside (5)
12 Experts refused Artemis (7)
13 Add up in rush - it started again (7)
14 Essentially parties in the middle of the day are frowned upon (3,2)
15 Lug it, to prevent nasty shocks (8)
18 Dictator's assistant is following the stricture (8)
20 Some lunch after one (5)
23 Wine details in tomfoolery (7)
25 Harry not completely sure, very anxious (7)
26 Provide Oriental humour (5)
27 Modern medicine, two pounds only - there is lack of interest all around (9)
28 Inner character of a country radiates from the centre (8)
29 Basically airfares are becoming more equitable (6)

Down

1 Plant - It's a pain to locate outside border (8)
2 Fast intervention by a doctor makes it bright (7)
3 Breaking ironstone may improve your mood (9)
5 Take part alone - guard IPR from top to bottom in a creative fashion (14)
6 Values those rising from bottom to top (5)
7 Starts over the top, upholding PM's seat (7)
8 Compound to stash almost everything inside (6)
9 Painters take part in renovation - with this, no sweat (14)
16 Farsightedness, that is happy or sad? (9)
17 He will vote against any other state supported by the Queen (8)
19 Platform for a popular leader (7)
21 Anonymous postal employee? That's something unique (7)
22 Automatic clearance, savings banks give you entry (6)
24 Place to get some humane palliative care (5)

SUDOKU

			9					
8	6							9
		7		2	4	6		8
	5			1			6	7
	8	3				1	4	
1	2			7			8	
3		9	6	8		2		
6							1	3
					7			

No.SS5641 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

B	U	P	■	I	A	B	C	T
O	I	N	K	I	N	G	D	E
L	I	L	A	H	G	R	■	T
N	R	U	U	R	O	R	I	G
A	M	I	■	I	G	N	O	B
L	E	T	P	■	■	T	A	D
F	S	A	M	E	N	D	M	E
N	T	E	P	O	C	H	■	■
■	■	E	■	■	I	R	O	E
S	A	B	B	A	T	H	■	C
R	I	T	T	E	R	H	A	D
■	E	■	■	N	E	R	R	O
R	■	B	O	U	R	G	E	O
I	S	B	■	I	■	R	G	■
■	B	O	A	N	T	E	N	N
A	■	A	M	A	T	E	U	R
N	N	O	■	G	I	■	N	C
R	E	G	A	N	N	E	T	S
■	D	I	N	G	O	E	S	■

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	3	9	7	2	6	4	1
2	7	1	8	6	4	5	3	9
4	6	9	5	1	3	2	7	8
7	1	6	4	5	9	3	8	2
9	3	8	7	2	6	1	5	4
5	4	2	1	3	8	9	6	7
1	8	4	6	9	5	7	2	3
3	9	5	2	8	7	4	1	6
6	2	7	3	4	1	8	9	5

FAITH

Sumantra, loyal adviser

Sumantra had earned the trust of King Dasaratha. Mantra means counsel or advice. And Sumantra, as his name indicates, was one who offered sound advice to Dasaratha, said Navalpakkam Vasudevachariar, in a discourse. Dasaratha asks Sumantra to fetch Rama, so that He can be told about cancellation of coronation and His exile to forest.

When Sumantra arrives at Rama's palace, he finds Rama and Sita dressed for the coronation. Until the actual coronation takes place fourteen years later, after Rama's return from the forest, no one else gets to see Rama and Sita dressed for the pattabhisheka. Sumantra is the only one fortunate enough to have seen this, long before the coronation becomes an actuality. Sumantra sees Rama, the granter of boons, who looks resplendent like the Sun. He brings Rama to Dasaratha's palace, where He is informed about Kaikeyi's wishes.

After making preparations for His departure, Rama goes to take leave of Dasaratha. Dasaratha asks Sumantra to bring the queens, so that they can bid farewell to Rama. Dasaratha urges Rama to arrest him, and to rule in his stead. But Rama says that Dasaratha should rule for a thousand years. Sumantra tells Kaikeyi that her husband is unconquerable like Indra. But she has tormented him, and she will be seen as one who sent him to his grave. A kingdom is inherited by the eldest son. How could she deprive Rama of His inheritance? If Rama leaves, all virtuous people will follow Him. Of what use will the country be to Bharata, if there are no righteous people living there? Sumantra's concern for Rama and Dasaratha is evident in his outburst against Kaikeyi.

MAZAR-I-SHARIF

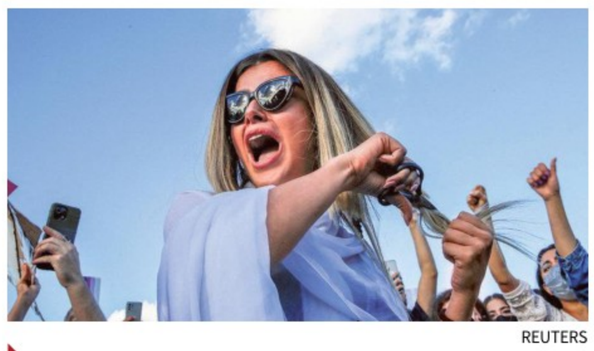
Roadside bomb kills seven persons travelling on a bus in Afghanistan

AP

A roadside bomb killed seven petroleum company employees going to work on a packed bus in northern Afghanistan's biggest city of Mazar-i-Sharif. Six others were injured in the incident. There were 52 people on the bus. "The bomb was placed in a cart by the roadside. It was detonated as the bus arrived," an official said. AFP

TEHRAN

Five sentenced to death in Iran over killing of paramilitary officer



REUTERS

Iran on Tuesday sentenced to death five persons over the killing of a Basij paramilitary force member during nationwide protests sparked by Mahsa Amini's death. Another 11 persons, including three children, were handed lengthy jail terms over the murder, a spokesperson said, adding the sentences could be appealed. AFP

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan President Alvi tells Imran Khan not to attack new Army chief

AP

Pakistan's President Arif Alvi has asked Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan to strictly direct his party leaders and social media team not to attack newly appointed Army chief General Asim Munir and the powerful military, a media report said on Tuesday, amid a tussle between the military and the former Prime Minister. PTI

THE HAGUE

Al Jazeera goes to ICC for case of journalist killed during Israel raid

AP

TV network *Al Jazeera* submitted the case of slain journalist Shireen Abu Akleh to the International Criminal Court, saying she was killed by Israeli forces. The channel said it had "unearthed new evidence" on the death of the Palestinian-American, shot while covering an Israel Army raid in the occupied West Bank on May 11. AFP

China's Xi set to visit Saudi Arabia for 'milestone' summit

This will be the Chinese President's second major overseas visit since the start of his third term. Report says China in 2020 replaced EU as GCC's largest trading partner with trade close to $161 bn

Ananth Krishnan
BEIJING

Shared interests: Xi Jinping will on Friday attend a summit with leaders from countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). AFP

Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit Saudi Arabia this week for what Beijing is calling a "milestone" first ever China-Arab summit to boost relations and already deep economic ties.

The visit was announced on Tuesday by the official Saudi Press Agency, which said Mr. Xi, at the invitation of King Salman, would arrive in Riyadh on Wednesday and later this week attend a Saudi-China summit, where Prince Mohammed bin Salman will also be present. Mr. Xi will on Friday attend a summit with leaders from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

This will be Mr. Xi's second major overseas visit following the start of his third term in October, coming after a trip to Bali and Bangkok for the G20 and APEC summit last month, underlining the growing strategic importance of West Asia for China.

China in 2020 replaced the European Union as the GCC's largest trading partner with trade reaching $161 billion, said a report this week from the Middle East Council on Global Affairs, which noted that China was involved in "massive infrastructure projects" in the region including the Lusail stadium that is hosting World Cup matches in Qatar and high-speed railway lines in Saudi Arabia, as well as being a major oil importer.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry as of Tuesday evening had not confirmed Mr. Xi's visit, with the government currently marking a mourning period for the passing of former leader Jiang Zemin. The Chinese Foreign Ministry earlier described the December 9 summit as "a milestone event" in a newly released report on China-Arab states cooperation.

'Similar opportunities'

"At the moment, amid the profound changes unseen in a century, China and Arab states face similar opportunities and challenges," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said. "China has all along viewed Arab states as strategic partners in our pursuit of peaceful development....We will continue working with Arab states to carry forward our traditional friendship, deepen cooperation in all areas, step up exchanges between our respective civilisations, and build a China-Arab states community with a shared future in the new era."

The first China-Arab states summit was "a strategic choice by both sides", Wang Guangda of the China-Arab Research Centre on Reform and Development in Shanghai wrote in the Party-run *Global Times* on Tuesday.

"China and Arab countries are reliable partners who treat each other equally. In their long-term interactions with the Western countries, Arab countries have become tired of the condescending arrogance of the West," he said. "China respects the development path chosen independently by the people of other countries, and is a reliable partner that will not impose its own values on others."

Indonesia approves ban on sex outside marriage

Agence France-Presse
JAKARTA

Deaf ears: An activist takes part in a protest after Indonesia's parliament approved a new criminal code on Tuesday. REUTERS

Indonesia's parliament approved a law on Tuesday that would outlaw sex outside marriage in a move critics said was a huge setback to rights in the world's most populous Muslim country.

Rights groups protested against the amendments, denouncing them as a crackdown on civil liberties and political freedoms as well as a shift towards fundamentalism in Muslim-majority Indonesia.

The article criminalising sex outside marriage has been criticised by Indonesian business organisations as detrimental to tourism, though authorities insist foreigners travelling to Bali would not be affected.

The new code, which still needs to be approved by President Joko Widodo, will come into force after three years.

Cohabiting couples

Some of the most controversial articles criminalise extra-marital sex, as well as the cohabitation of unmarried couples.

According to the text seen by AFP, sex outside marriage will be punished with one year in prison while unmarried people living together could face six months in jail.

The new rules could also be used to criminalise the LGBTQ community in Indonesia, said Andreas Harsono of Human Rights Watch, as the country does not acknowledge same-sex marriage.

After airbases, drones target Kursk airport in Russia

Associated Press
KYIV

A fire that broke out at an airport in Russia's southern Kursk region that borders Ukraine was the result of a drone attack, the regional governor said on Tuesday, a day after Moscow blamed Kyiv for drone strikes on two airbases deep inside Russia and launched a new wave of missile strikes on Ukrainian territory. Kursk Governor said that the drone attack ignited an oil reservoir in the area of Kursk airport.

Ukrainian officials have not formally confirmed carrying out the drone attacks, maintaining their apparent policy of deliberate ambiguity as they have done in the past.

President Murmu, PM Modi condole Jiang Zemin's passing

Ananth Krishnan
BEIJING

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have expressed their condolences over the passing of former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin in messages to Chinese President Xi Jinping, State media in Beijing reported on Tuesday.

The President and Prime Minister Modi were among world leaders to "express their deep condolences via phone, letters or other means to Chinese President Xi Jinping", State-run *Xinhua* news agency reported, adding that the list included Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, and New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern among others.

Mr. Xi and former President Hu Jintao were among those who paid their last respects to Jiang at a funeral in Beijing on Monday.

Speaking at a memorial service on Tuesday at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Mr. Xi praised the legacy of Jiang, who headed the Communist Party for a decade until 2002 that saw extraordinary growth as well as improving relations between China and the West.

'Strengthen party'

Calling for the Communist Party "to turn grief into strength" and emphasising the need for "unity", he asked party members to strengthen "the backbone and confidence" of the party and "not succumb to pressure".

Jiang's passing last week has triggered an outpouring of nostalgia on Chinese social media for a period that saw both economic opportunity and relative openness. His death came amid protests against lockdowns and stringent COVID-19 policies. In recent days, the Chinese government has announced a series of measures to ease restrictions and has begun a shift away from the "zero-COVID" policy of the past three years.

The Beijing government on Tuesday morning, shortly before the memorial service, announced that residents for the first time in many months no longer need PCR test results to enter buildings, another major easing measure following an earlier move to no longer require test results to access public transport.

China reiterates its stand on 'no first use' nuclear policy

Associated Press
BEIJING

China strictly adheres to its policy of no first use of nuclear weapons "at any time and under any circumstances," its Defence Ministry said on Tuesday in a scathing response to a U.S. report released last week alleging a major build-up in Beijing's nuclear capabilities.

The Pentagon last week released an annual China security report that warned Beijing would likely have 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035, and that it has provided no clarity on how it plans to use them.

That report "distorts China's national defence policy, makes groundless speculation about China's military development and grossly interferes in China's internal affairs on the issue of Taiwan," Ministry spokesperson Tan Kefei said in a statement.

Mr. Tan accused the U.S. of being the "biggest troublemaker and destroyer of world peace and stability," and repeated that Beijing has never renounced the use of force to conquer self-governing Taiwan.

Mr. Tan did not directly address the report's allegations about a Chinese nuclear buildup, but blamed the U.S. for raising nuclear tensions, particularly with its plan to help Australia build a fleet of submarines powered by U.S. nuclear technology, which the French President has described as a "confrontation with China."

His remarks came days after U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said the U.S. is at a pivotal point with China and will need military strength to ensure that American values, not Beijing's, set global norms in the 21st century.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, "MESCOM BHAVANA", Bejai, Mangaluru - 575 004
Ph: 0824-2885795 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No: MESCOM/PROC/PURC/174/2022-PROC Date: 03.12.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

MESCOM invites tender for Manufacture & Supply of following material:

Tender No	Name of the Material proposed for Procurement	Quantity
MESCOM/ 2022-23/IND903	Double Pole TC Set for 4/5 Star Transformers-GI	2000 Sets

The interested eligible bidders may log on to: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **08.12.2022.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.), Corporate Office

For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru - 560070.

No: EE/RDW&SD/BNG(U)/TND/23/2022-23
Dated: 03-12-2022

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited through E-Procurement for the works approved Under JJM Head of grants for the year 2022-23. Under Two Cover System. The Tender Documents can be obtained and Submitted **on or before 14-12-2022 upto 4.00 PM.** For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit Website: **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division
Bangalore Urban Dist, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3419/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH, BELLARY
Office of the Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Bellary,
No. EE/PRED/BLY/AE-1/Diff. heads/TDR/2022-23/ 1315
Dt. 03-12-2022.

Tender Notification (Through E-portal only)

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka tenders are invited from the eligible contractors who have enrolled in Panchayath Raj Engineering Department for 03 work comprising of approved road and buiding work under D.M.F and 3054 lumpsum scheme through e-procurement portal. Contractors are required to submit the tender before 20-12-2022 at 4.00 PM by uploading the relevant documents through e-procurement portal website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in/e-portal/index.seam by downloading the formats for submission of tenders from 05-12-2022 to 20-12-2022 at 4.00 PM. Tenders will be opened through e-proc portal on 21-12-2022 at 5.00 PM. Any changes in the notification will be published in e-procurement website only. Accepting/rejection of tenders without assigning reason is reserved. Any details can be obtained in person at the office or through telephone No. 08392-266173.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/692/MCA/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Hassan Division, Hassan.
No.EE/PWD/HSN/JE-2/2022-23/ DATED: 05.12.2022.

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 22/2022-23, Dated: 05.12.2022

Tender is invited by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000, Standard Tender Document KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4 from the eligible registered Contractors of Karnataka PWD and the Contractors belonging to Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes shall be domicile of the State of Karnataka for more than 10 years through E-procurement pertains to 32 Works in Hassan District. In these tenders 5 tenders are reserved for SC Contractors and 3 tenders are reserved for ST Contractors. The minimum tender amount is Rs.06.00 lakhs and maximum tender amount Rs.200.00 lakhs under PWD Hassan Division jurisdiction. Last date of Receipt of tender is 15.12.2022. For more details visit http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. or contact this office through Phone No. 08172-268437 or in person during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD,
Hassan Division, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/798/2022–23

International Institute of Information Technology, Naya Raipur
Plot No.7, Sector 24, Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur - 493661, (C.G.), India

E- TENDER NOTICE

Following tender is invited on behalf of Director IIIT-NR from interested bidders:

Sl.No	Tender Enquiry Number	Description of Tender
01	IIITNR/Dispensary/22-23	Providing Dispensary Services at IIIT-NR

Bidders can download complete set of bidding documents from IIIT-NR website https://www.iiitnr.ac.in from **25th November 2022** onwards. Bidders need to submit the bids offline with all the required documents to IIIT-NR on or before 25th Dec 2022 by 16:00hrs. **Purchase Officer**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಮಬದಕಾನಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ. 3 ಬ್ಯಾಹಟ್ಟಿ, ತಾ:: ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ, ಜಿ: ಧಾರವಾಡ 580023.
e-mail :- knnl@knnlindia.com ಫೋನ್ :0836–2315225 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್:2315226.
Website:- www.knnlindia.com e-mail :-eemrbcc3byt@gmail.com

ಸಂ.ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ಮಬದವಿ–3/ಎ.ಇ–1/ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ/2022–23/1951 ದಿ:–05–12–2022

ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ್ ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಮಬದಕಾನಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಂ.3, ಬ್ಯಾಹಟ್ಟಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ 4701 ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂಬರಿನ 01 ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟನ್ಸಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

Work Indent No :-34576
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. 85.10 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ:– ರೂ. 1,71,000/–

ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23/12/2022 ರ 4.00 pm** ತನಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26/12/2022** ರಂದು ಮುಂಜಾನೆ: **11.00 am** ರಿಂದ. ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿವಾರು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮುಖೇನ **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಚೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836–2315225 ನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು
ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ಮಬದಕಾನಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ನಂ. 3 ಬ್ಯಾಹಟ್ಟಿ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾ/825/2022–23/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.: SEE/WMC/TKR/4359-61 Date :05.12.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement portal only)

KPTCL invites tenders for the following work.

Bid Enquiry No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/TKR/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-1/Enq-12 Date: 17.10.2022/Call-2 Tender for Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of Sick Power Transformer of rating 100 MVA, 220/66KV CGL make, Sl.No. BH8859/1 year of manufacture 2002, failed at 220/66KV Receiving Station, Anchepalya in Tumakuru District and laying at 220/66KV Receiving Station, Anchepalya on total turnkey basis.

The details can be obtained by logging into e-Procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** and click on hyperlink "e-Procurement-kptcl" **on or after 09.12.2022.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (El.,)
Trans(W&M) Circle, KPTCL,
Siddaganga Complex, B.H. Road,
Tumakuru-572 102

INBRIEF

Maruti recalls 9,125 vehicles to fix possible seat-belt defects

Maruti Suzuki India said it is recalling 9,125 units of its models Ciaz, Brezza, Ertiga, XL6 and Grand Vitara to fix possible defects in a part of the front row seat belts. The affected vehicles were manufactured between November 2-28, Maruti Suzuki India said in a regulatory filing. "It is suspected there is a possible defect in one of the child parts of shoulder height adjuster assembly of front row seat belts, which, in a rare case, may lead to seat-belt disassembly," it said. PTI

Bid to issue debentures to ATC lapsed sans govt. reply: VI

Debt-ridden Vodafone Idea Ltd.'s (VIL's) proposal to issue ₹1,600-crore debentures to mobile tower vendor ATC Telecom Infrastructure (ATI) has lapsed in the absence of any response from the Centre on the conversion of interest dues into equity, VIL said. Last month, VIL's shareholders approved the issue of optionally convertible debentures worth ₹1,600 crore to ATI to settle its dues by converting the due amount into equity, if the amount remained unpaid in 18 months. PTI

Nasscom tags 28 technologies likely to soon disrupt markets

A report released by Nasscom in association with Boston Consulting Group (BCG) here on Tuesday identified 28 emerging big-bet technologies that have the potential to disrupt markets in the next 3-5 years. Among these, 12 emerging technologies, with high funding momentum and R&D focus, have been identified as the biggest bets and they include autonomous analytics, AR & VR, autonomous driving and 5G/6G.

Fitch lowers India FY2023-24 growth forecast to 6.2%

RBI likely to raise policy rate to 6.15% this month and retain this level through 2023, says the rating agency; it retains growth forecast for FY23 at 7%, says Q2 expansion was higher than expected

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Tuesday pared its 2023-24 growth expectations for India to 6.2% from the 6.7% level it had predicted in September, with global growth expected to slip to just 1.4% in 2023 as opposed to 1.7% estimated earlier – the weakest expansion since 2008.

Ahead of the central bank's monetary policy review to be unveiled on Wednesday, the global rating agency said it expects the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to increase the policy rate to 6.15% this month and retain this level through 2023. "The RBI has raised rates by a cumulative 190 basis points (bp) since the start of the tightening cycle in April..., lagging behind the Fed's 350 bp increases over the same period," the firm said in its Global Economic Outlook report for December. 100 basis points equal one percentage point. "The RBI has already intervened to support the rupee and further rate rises are likely to support the currency and to curtail underlying inflationary pressure."

"We now expect the RBI to increase policy rates to 6.15% by December and to then hold this rate throughout 2023," it said, implying the bank's monetary policy committee may opt for a slower 25 bps increase at its meeting that will conclude on Wednesday. Fitch has retained its India GDP growth estimate for 2022-23 at 7%, noting that the economy's 6.3% uptick in the second quarter was higher than its forecast of 5.5%.

Future tense

The Reserve Bank has raised rates by 190 bp since the start of the tightening cycle in April 2022, lagging behind the Federal Reserve's 350 bp increases over the same period

- Fitch expects RBI to announce a 25-bp increase in repo rate on Wednesday
- India's 6.3% growth in second quarter was higher than Fitch's 5.5% estimate
- Global growth is set to slip to 1.4% in 2023, lower than 1.7% estimated earlier — the weakest expansion since 2008

Rupee tumbles as dollar gains against major currencies

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A strengthening U.S. dollar drove the rupee down on Tuesday by 65 paise, or 0.8%, to 82.50, a day ahead of the monetary policy announcement by the Reserve Bank of India.

"Rupee continues to remain under pressure as the dollar strengthened against major currencies" said Gaurang Somaiya, forex and bullion analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services. "Strength in the dollar is... a major factor triggering a move in major currencies including the rupee," he said.

'Focus is on RBI policy'

"Focus will be on the RBI policy statement; expectation is that central bank could raise rates by another 35 bps," he added.

"We expect the USDINR (Spot) to trade sideways and quote in the range of 82.20 and 82.80."

Anindya Banerjee, VP, Currency Derivatives & Interest Rate Derivatives at Kotak Securities Ltd. said: "USDINR forward premium is trading at the lowest levels since 2011 and low forward premiums are hurting dollar supply. It is making carry trade unviable and also reducing exporter hedging".

"It is making rupee vulnerable to global shocks. The rupee has become one of the weakest currencies across a broad basket of currencies... year-to-date."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	62,626	-0.33
US Dollar	82.50	-0.79
Gold	53,898	-0.90
Brent oil	80.70	-5.08

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	4031.80	101.40
Adani Ports	896.45	3.30
Apollo Hosp	4788.05	9.70
Asian Paints	3161.70	4.80
Axis Bank	904.65	5.45
Bajaj Auto	3694.80	34.90
Bajaj Finserv	1635.25	1.05
Bajaj Finance	6698.55	38.10
Bharti Airtel	833.35	-10.75
BPCL	328.55	-9.85
Britannia Ind	4424.35	21.00
Cipla	1109.60	-5.75
Coal India	231.65	0.40
Divis Lab	3355.90	-12.95
Dr Reddys Lab	4374.20	-105.20
Eicher Motors	3299.70	-44.70
Grasim Ind	1826.05	9.90
HCL Tech	1120.95	-9.90
HDFC	2684.10	8.30
HDFC Bank	1611.15	-1.80
HDFC Life	586.80	-2.10
Hero MotoCorp	2798.80	-28.85
Hindalco	470.00	-11.20
Hind Unilever	2654.55	34.70
ICICI Bank	922.65	-10.95
IndusInd Bank	1184.10	-11.40
Infosys	1612.90	-26.85
ITC	337.30	0.55
JSW Steel	746.75	-9.85
Kotak Bank	1935.25	-3.20
L&T	2093.50	7.90
M&M	1263.05	3.25
Maruti Suzuki	8717.35	-74.70
NestleIndia	19911.10	158.90
NTPC	175.20	0.05
ONGC	142.45	-1.30
PowerGrid Corp	223.50	1.60
Reliance Ind	2690.20	7.75
SBI Life	1285.10	0.55
State Bank	608.95	-8.35
Sun Pharma	1033.55	-5.85
TataConsumerProduct	797.65	-2.85
Tata Motors	427.10	-1.65
Tata Steel	112.95	-2.90
TCS	3385.35	-40.55
Tech Mahindra	1088.80	-10.95
Titan	2617.00	1.35
UltraTech Cement	7242.05	43.45
UPL	787.90	-14.90
Wipro	411.35	-1.00

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 06

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.42	82.74
Euro	86.55	86.88
British Pound	100.33	100.72
Japanese Yen (100)	60.31	60.54
Chinese Yuan	11.78	11.83
Swiss Franc	87.51	87.86
Singapore Dollar	60.74	60.98
Canadian Dollar	60.45	60.71
Malaysian Ringitt	18.73	18.84
Australian Dollar	55.37	55.59

Source:Indian Bank

Half of Russian Urals crude said to have come to India in Nov.

Reuters
MOSCOW

Russia has exported to India at least 3.7 million tonnes of all seaborne Urals supplies via the ports of Primorsk, Ust-Luga and Novorossiisk in November, Reuters calculations based on Refinitiv and traders' data showed on Tuesday.

Russian Urals oil shipments to India accounted for about 53% – a record-high share of total tanker Urals shipments in November, calculations showed.

The total volume of shipments of Urals oil from the Russian ports, excluding the transit volumes of Kazakhstan, slid in November while nearing the embargo, which prohibits the European Union purchasing Russian seaborne crude after December 5.

Foreign funds pile into financial firms as credit cycle picks up

Reuters
MUMBAI

Foreign investors are buying into Indian financial firms, lured by prospects of a fresh credit cycle that may boost the stocks of the country's largest lenders.

Indian shares are trading at a record-high valuation premium to their Asian counterparts, BNP Paribas said, but overseas investors have found a bright spot in financials, considering them relatively cheap given their strong fundamentals.

The optimism is reflected in foreign investors buying a net of $1.74 billion worth of Indian financial stocks in November, NSDL data showed. That is more than a third of the total $4.44 billion net inflows for the month.

DoT proposes not to monetise Bharatnet infrastructure

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

DoT has so far not raised any money via asset monetisation against FY23 target of ₹20,180 crore

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has proposed not to monetise rural broadband network infrastructure built under the Bharatnet project, according to sources.

It plans to replace it with alternative assets to achieve the target fixed under the National Monetisation Pipeline, they said.

The BSNL tower monetisation bid will be targeted before FY23, they said, adding that an earlier attempt to monetise assets under Bharatnet had failed to get satisfactory response from private players. DoT, under the Ministry of Communications, has so far not raised funds via asset monetisation against the ₹20,180 crore target in FY23.

An e-mail sent to DoT seeking comments remained unanswered.

'Fertilizer subsidy for FY23 may rise to ₹2.3-2.5 lakh cr.'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The government's fertilizer subsidy will rise to ₹2.3-2.5 lakh crore in this fiscal but the bill may fall by 25% in the 2023-24 financial year with moderation in global prices, according to industry body FAI.

Fertilisers Association of India (FAI) expressed concern that the fixed cost of urea has not been increased, affecting the viability of urea plants.

It also pointed out that the industry is running on a very thin margin, which is hampering new investments in this sector.

"We estimate the fertilizer subsidy bill at ₹2.3 lakh crore to ₹2.5 lakh crore," FAI President K.S. Raju told reporters here.

This has helped insulate the farmers from the impact of a steep increase in the cost of all fertilizers.

The fertilizer subsidy stood at ₹1.62 lakh crore in the previous financial year.

FAI board member P. S. Gahlaut, who is MD of Indian Potash Ltd., said the subsidy bill in the next fiscal year could fall by about 25% as global prices had softened.

FAI said as per the data provided by 24 fertilizer firms, profit after tax as a percentage of turnover were 0.61%, 0.39%, 0.64%, 2.47% and 1.39% for the financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22, respectively.

"Such wafer-thin margins are grossly inadequate to service the investments made," the FAI said.

Foreign funds can own over 51% in IDBI Bank: Centre

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The Indian government will allow a consortium of foreign funds and investment firms to own more than 51% in IDBI Bank Ltd., according to a government clarification on Tuesday.

The RBI's residency criteria for promoters applies only to newly set-up banks and would not apply to an existing entity like IDBI Bank, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management said in a response to interested bidders' queries.

Nov. thermal power generation rises 16%

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's thermal power generation registered a growth of 16.3% to 87,687 MU (million units) in November this year compared with 75,412 MU generated in the year-earlier period.

The overall generation of power in the country also increased by 14.6% to 1,18,029 MU.

Power despatch

Power utilities' despatch rose 3.55% to 62.34 million tonnes (MT) in November, the Coal Ministry said.

Meanwhile, the country's total coal output went up by 11.66% to 75.87 MT last month. As per the latest figures of the Coal Ministry, Coal India Ltd. clocked production growth of 12.82% during November, whereas the output of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. and captive mines/others registered a growth of 7.84% and 6.87%, respectively.

Sport

Nakamura impressed with Gukesh's classical chess

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOLKATA

Much like cricket's ICC rankings, there are three separate formats the chess players are assessed in. Two of them – classical and rapid – are headed by Magnus Carlsen, the five-time World champion and widely regarded as the strongest player of all time.

Hikaru Nakamura sits atop the blitz rating. He is a monster in the format.

So it was hardly a surprise to find the American a bit disappointed shortly after the blitz event of the Tata Steel Chess India tournament concluded at the National Library: he could only finish runner-up, to Arjun Erigaisi.

A blunder, right at the end, had cost him that game in the penultimate round and thus the title.

Talent-spotting: Nakamura has high regard for the new crop of Indian teenagers who have been making waves. DEBASISH BHADURI

"Yes, such results leave a bad taste in the mouth, but overall I feel I am moving forward, with the World blitz and rapid championships to be held later this month," he told *The Hindu*.

Nakamura isn't admired just for his brilliant moves on the chessboard. He is a hugely popular streamer, with about 1.4 million followers each on YouTube and Twitch.

"I am now getting used to having so many people following my streams, but I was surprised while I was streaming in 2019, when a lot of people were stuck inside during the lockdown," said the World No. 5 in classical chess.

"The lockdown contributed to the growth in popularity of chess the world over."

Before coming to Kolkata, Nakamura had won the FIDE Fischer Random World chess championship. It is a format – also known as Chess960 – that allows creativity to thrive at the expense of theory.

"It is hard to tell how the format will progress and a lot depends on the commercial interest," he said.

"I think 960 will become a lot more popular but it will be a long time before it becomes anywhere near comparable to rapid and blitz chess."

Enjoying Chess960

He enjoys playing 960. "I started playing chess at a time when computers were not widely available," he said. "So when I play 960 it is refreshing and reminds me of my childhood."

About the magnificent quartet of Indian teenagers – D. Gukesh, Arjun, R. Praggnanandhaa and Nihal Sarin – that is threatening to take the world by storm, he feels that one of them is far ahead of the rest when it comes to classical chess. "I am very impressed by Gukesh," he said.

"When it comes to rapid and blitz, it is very much a toss-up between Arjun and Nihal."

Abhay, Joshna start favourites

SR. NATIONAL SQUASH

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Three top players – two men and one women – have pulled out of the HCL-78th Senior National squash championships beginning here on Wednesday, giving the field an open look.

Saurav opts out

Defending men's champion Saurav Ghosal, Ramit Tandon and Sunayna Kuruvilla have opted out for different reasons.

While Ghosal had informed the Squash Rackets Federation of India in advance of being tired because of a long season, Ramit Tandon, who was the top seed, said "over the last couple of days I had stomach issues along with fever." Women's second-seed Sunayna has suffered a hamstring injury.

Joshna. FILE PHOTO: R. RAGU

However, their withdrawals has not diluted the quality of the field. Abhay Singh and eighteen-time champion Joshna Chinappa, the top seeds in men and women, are the favourites for the crown, but it definitely will not be a cakewalk for them.

In good nick

Abhay has been amazing form, having won three PSA Tour titles this year. However, he will be challenged by S. Velavan and former champion Harinderpal Singh.

Joshna, 36, won her maiden National title at the age of 14.

The former World No.10 may have to face a 14-year-old and second seed Anahat Singh, who is widely considered to be an exciting talent, in the final.

The men's qualifiers: Veer Chotrani, Naveen Jangra, Vikas Mehra, Harinderpal Singh, Ravi Dixit, Vijay Kumar, Vaibhav Chauhan and Ranjit Singh.

TOUGH LOSS

Captain Son apologises after South Korea's meek exit

Son Heung-min apologised after South Korea exited the World Cup, losing to Brazil. "I can only apologise to our fans for not living up to their expectations," said the 30-year-old, who played in a mask in Qatar following facial surgery last month. "We did our best but I think we played a very difficult game."

STRESSFUL

Croatians can't win 'without drama', says Modric

Croatia captain Luka Modric said his team "can't do it without a drama" after it reached the World Cup quarterfinals following a penalty shootout win against Japan on Monday. Mario Pasalic struck the winning spot-kick after Dominik Livakovic saved three penalties. "It seems that we can't do it without a drama," said Modric.

FIRST CASUALTY

Bierhoff resigns after Germany's early World Cup exit

Oliver Bierhoff is the first managerial casualty of Germany's early exit after agreeing to resign as managing director of the country's football teams and academy. The German football federation said on Monday that Bierhoff agreed to prematurely end his contract. It was due to run through the 2024 European Championship.

NO SOLACE

Japan wins count for nothing after World Cup exit, says Doan

Ritsu Doan said Japan's historic World Cup wins over Germany and Spain counted for nothing after being eliminated by Croatia. He took no consolation from his team's achievements. "I expected someone to say that if we lost, but to be honest it doesn't mean anything," he said. "No matter how well we fought today, we didn't change history."

Morocco advances after Spain shoots blanks

The African side stops its opponent from gaining any rhythm with a dogged approach in a game which remained goalless till extra-time; Enrique's men misfire from the spot

The hero! Morocco's Yassine Bounou came up with a superlative show under the bar. AFP

FIFA WORLD CUP

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

There was a swelling of Arab pride as Morocco – carrying not just the hopes of a nation, but the entire region – painted this town red. The contest, for the second night in a row, was finally decided by Russian roulette, and Morocco, to the joy of almost everyone around, won 3-0 (on penalties) as the Spaniards after '1000 training rounds' could shoot only blanks.

While Spain played its usual intricate passing game, Morocco was dogged, stopping its opponent from finding any rhythm. In the 25th minute, Yassine Bounou's pass to his teammate was robbed, but Gavi's prompt attempt was stopped by the bar.

Spain, despite enjoying 67% possession in the first half, failed to create proper inroads to trouble Morocco, which was happy to sit back and use the pace of its full backs. An unmarked Nayef Aguerd should have done better with the Sofiane Boufal cross that landed on his head as the Spanish defence had a momentary concentration lapse.

Immediately after the break, Dani Olmo's powerful shot from a narrow angle was fisted out by Bounou. While in the 80th minute, Alvaro Morata latched on to a ball played behind the tired Moroccan defence, but his cut back went abegging as no Spanish player showed the urgency to rush in.

Soon extra-time was upon us, and danger was averted at the Spanish end with a timely toe poke from Aymeric Laporte when Walid Cheddira was just about to put a shot on target. Morocco had a few more chances but its scoring boots were nowhere to be found. And the last chance fell to Spain's Pablo Sarabia, but his shot kissed the post but didn't go in and a shootout was the only way to decide this game.

Abdelhamid Sabiri dispatched Morocco's first, but Sarabia could again only hit the post. Bounou dived to his left to save Spain's next from Carlos Soler but a miss from Badr Benoun kept the Europeans in the hunt after Hakim Ziyech had blasted Morocco's second penalty in through the middle. But Bounou got a hand to keep out Sergio Busquets, and then the Madrid-born Achraf Hakimi kept his cool in the desert heat to dink in the winning goal.

Spain was out and Morocco through and the surprised fans took some time to believe this was true.

The result: Morocco 0 drew with Spain. Morocco won 3-0 via shootout.

Well-orchestrated Brazilian bash sinks hapless Koreans

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

Target masters: The four Brazilian marksmen in a celebratory mood after a strike against South Korea. AP

These were not the streets of Doha, but we had been miraculously transported into the bowels of trance-like Rio de Janeiro. Brazil, according to the veteran Thiago Silva "played the best football I have seen Brazil play" and put this contest beyond Korea Republic's reach in the first 45 minutes.

The fans of the Selecao already had an inkling of the feast and had come dressed in their best – the rainforest armadillo, men with colourful mane and women in colourful ensembles and even a yellow dinosaur from the Mesozoic Age. There were three stumbling merrymakers too, a sight not seen in Qatar before.

The goals were coming in a bounty, and nobody could have stopped this Brazilian bash. The unfortunate Koreans were just at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Raphinha's creation

The first goal was Raphinha's creation as he stripped the opposition of the ball near the right touchline and ignored a shove before centring it inside. A host of Brazilian bodies missed his delivery, but Vinicius Junior was there, relatively unmarked, and he cheekily lifted it over the goalkeeper who rushed out in vain to distract the Real Madrid attacker.

And when Richarlison was hacked, Neymar jogged, stopped and hopped to roll in the next as Kim Seung-gyu dived the other way. The night for Korea Republic was already looking long as the Brazilians attack created every geometrical angle you can ever think of.

And when the Koreans made a rare foray as Hwang Hee-chan did in the 17th minute with a 30-yard curler, Alisson Becker was there, flying across to tip everything over. Brazil was now evoking the memories of Jogo bonito of the past and you could hear the nostalgic "oohhs and aahhs" of disbelief as the Koreans were taught about a game of feints, flicks and dribbles. This football cannot be schooled but comes with your genes that are only available to those from the land of the shape-shifting Amazon.

Brazil was playing on its own, the 11 on the other side were just mannequins to dodge past during the Christmas shopping rush and Richarlison bounced the ball like in a game of head tennis and ambled into the six-yards box. He side-footed the third as Casemiro's return evaded others to reach his inviting feet.

The Brazilians were dancing (even coach Tite), and this was not just the whirling of your hips, but a ballet where every sense jigged. Lucas Paqueta's volley from a Vinicius pass completed the first-half rout as the Korean pocket behind its goal tried hard to raise the spirits of its team.

More purposeful

But Son Heung-min was soon testing Alisson as Korea came back with a bit more purpose. And the debonair 'keeper was again making a save from Hwang Hee-chan who had aimed for the bottom left.

The Korean band with their drums finally had something to play for as Paik Seung-ho rocketed his long-ranger past Alisson, who too had been as brilliant as his outfield partners.

Korea in this different half had the chances to stretch this game but it lacked the ruthlessness of Brazil.

On this Monday, the Brazil team sent a message of love and support to the ailing King, and this was not just the banner which was unfurled in the end.

The result: Brazil 4 (Vinicius Jr 7, Neymar 13-pen, Richarlison 29, Paqueta 36) bt South Korea 1 (Paik 76).

Hakimi — a Spain-born winner for Morocco!

Neeladri Bhattacharjee
CHENNAI

Click for posterity: Hakimi's mother shows her appreciation for her son's match-winning effort against Belgium. GETTY IMAGES

There are World Cup matches won in regulation time, some in extra period. But those won in penalty shootouts – the Russian roulette of the game – can be the cruellest.

When Morocco blanked Spain 3-0 on penalties in the round of 16 match at the Education City Stadium on Tuesday, it was a Spain-born warrior of Maghreb who put the final nail in the coffin.

Achraf Hakimi – a full-back who grew up on the streets of Madrid – scored the decisive goal, leaving goalkeeper Unai Simon on the other side, and that too with a Panenka!

"My mother cleaned houses and my father was a street vendor. We come from a modest family that struggled to earn a living. Today I fight every day for them. They sacrificed themselves for me," he had once told *Bundesliga.com*.

Hakimi – having chosen to represent his parents' country of origin, Morocco – has played a key role for the Atlas Lions since 2018 and was a crucial part of their attack against Spain.

"I was in *Las Rojas* (Spanish national camp) for a couple of days and I saw that it wasn't the right place for me, I didn't feel at home," the 24-year-old had revealed.

"It wasn't for anything in particular, but for what I felt, because it wasn't what I had grown up with and lived at home, which is Arab culture, being Moroccan... I wanted to be here."

The player being hugged and kissed by his mother, after the wins over powerhouses Belgium and Spain, has become one of the frames of the tournament. When Hakimi plays in the quarterfinal, it will not only be a victory for Morocco, but also for the immigrants the world over.

We played one of our best games, says Silva

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

Brazil was at its imperious best, swatting away Korea Republic in a whirlwind first 45 minutes.

The players from Latina America were quicker, relaying on the years of playing together to secure a 4-0 lead while playing a game which nobody else could have played.

"We were better, very aggressive and solid in the first half, we knew that the main work would be today, the team rested in the last game, which many said was the right choice, I am loyal to the side in any case, I think it was right that's why we played the game we played today," veteran defender Thiago Silva said in the mixed zone after the game.

While the attackers went on a rampage, the Brazilian defence, too, held its shape in the first half, but were left a little stretched as Korea came out stronger after the restart. "I believe it's the balance between defence and attack. I've heard a lot of people talk in terms of a very rigid selection, but I think that's a word that doesn't really fit us. We have complete freedom, especially up front.

"It's possible that today's (defensive) game wasn't very good and I'm just not 100% satisfied because we conceded a goal," Silva said.

The Brazilians are confident about their own abilities and are not worried about Croatia, their next opponent, or Argentina, who they could face in the semifinals.

"It's not our intention to be afraid. Today we played one of our best games, especially in the first half, we almost settled there as we played with a bit of calm.

"I think we dropped it a bit in the second half as we ran unnecessarily and conceded a goal. It will serve as a lesson for the next games, the Chelsea defender said.

'Was afraid of not being able to play in the World Cup again'

Sending love: Neymar and his teammates unfurled a banner wishing Pele a quick recovery.AFP

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

As Neymar made a return to the Brazilian starting XI after missing out the last two games, the talisman scored the second goal as the team rediscovered its love for football after a shock defeat to Cameroon.

The No. 10 revealed that he had feared his World Cup was over after picking up an ankle injury in the first game. "I was afraid of not being able to play in the World Cup again, but I have the support of all of my colleagues, my family and I tried to look for strength where I could find it. When I was reading all of the messages of encouragement, it helped my recovery," he said. "I'd like to thank God for giving me the strength to come back, to be able to train and to do all I needed to in order to play again."

Brazil next plays Croatia in the quarterfinals and Neymar will continue to give his best. "There's no better way to show my appreciation than out on the pitch. I'll be doing every that I can to win with the Brazilian national team. That's our mission and dream," he said.

The Paris Saint-Germain forward, with his teammates, also unfurled a banner wishing an ailing Pele a quick recovery after the victory over Korea Republic. "It's hard to put it into words. I wish Pele the best. He will become healthier very soon, I am sure."

INBRIEF

Manisha is Female Para Badminton Player of the Year

Young Indian shuttler Manisha Ramadass has claimed the BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year award for her stellar run this season. The Badminton World Federation on Monday named Manisha as the winner after the 17-year-old won the gold in the World Championships in the SU5 section. Overall, she claimed 11 gold and five bronze medals in 2022.

India u-19 women complete sweep with four-wkt. win

The Indian U-19 women's team completed a 5-0 series, defeating New Zealand women's U-19 by four wickets in the final T20 match in Mumbai in Tuesday.

The scores: New Zealand women's u-19 119/6 in 20 overs (Prue Catton 53, Izzy Gaze 34, Sonam Yadav 2/27, Mannat Kashyap 2/22) lost to India women's u-19 121/6 in 18 overs (Soumya Tiwari 40, Anna Browning 3/13, Kayley Knight 2/19).

Harsha's treble highlights Sandeep HC's big win

Harsha scored a hat-trick as Sandeep HC defeated Gulbarga HC 7-1 in the KSHA B-division hockey league in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

The results: Royal HC 3 (M. Dhanush 25, 45, A. Dhanush 44) bt Shri Hanuman Blessings HC, Gadag 2 (Maruti Ballari 26, 29); Sandeep HC 7 (Sundar 10, Harsha 18, 21, 28, Nikil Joseph 20, Basavaraj 34, Nagaraj 46) bt Gulbarga HC 1 (Karthik 2).

McLaughlin-Levrone and Duplantis win top WA awards

American 400m hurdler Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone and Swedish pole vaulter Mondo Duplantis won the 'World Athlete of the Year' awards on Monday. Duplantis won the world indoor and outdoor titles with record heights of 6.20m and 6.21m respectively. McLaughlin clocked an astonishing 50.68 seconds in July obliterating her own world record by more than half a second.

Dabang Delhi keeps playoffs hopes alive

Dabang Delhi produced a brilliant performance to defeat U Mumba 41-24 in the Pro Kabaddi League in Hyderabad on Tuesday. With the victory, Dabang Delhi kept its playoffs hopes alive, while U Mumba and Patna Pirates joined Telugu Titans on the sidelines. In the second match, Gujarat Giants got the better of Telugu Titans 44-30.

LIVE TELECAST

BWF World Tour Finals: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 9.30 a.m.

Bangladesh vs India: 2nd ODI, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11.30 a.m.

I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 4.30 & 7 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.

All eyes on India's top-order with series on the line

History could repeat itself if the batters fail to make the phase between overs 11-40 count; Dhoni and Co. had lost 1-2 in Bangladesh in 2015, the only win coming in the dead rubber

INDIA IN BANGLADESH

Press Trust of India
MIRPUR

India's decorated top-order, trying to pick up the pieces after a demoralising defeat, will be desperate to change the narrative and give a better account of itself against slow bowling in the do-or-die second ODI against Bangladesh here on Wednesday.

The last time India played a bilateral series in Bangladesh was back in 2015 when under Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the team lost the three-match series 2-1 and the only win came in the dead third rubber.

History could repeat itself at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium if spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Mehidy Hasan Miraz can once again keep the Indian batters under wraps between overs 11-40. That was the real period of struggle for all Indian batters, save K.L. Rahul (73 off 70 balls) who was the best player on show in the opening game.

X-factor: Umran and Kuldeep will look to make early dents for India in the second ODI. AP

Approach

While there are still 10 months left for the ODI World Cup, it is not yet clear what exactly will be Indian team's approach

The talks around adopting a "fearless approach" has been going on for some time but its implementation has only been sporadic.

The idea of handing the gloves to K.L. Rahul wasn't about increasing flexibility in the team but to ensure that both Rahul and Dhawan could be fitted in the same playing XI, going into the World Cup.

The decision to rest both Shubman Gill and Sanju Samson for this series has been equally baffling.

Samson, one of the most flamboyant players, wasn't even picked for this series and Ishan Kishan, who scored 93 in his last ODI series, despite being a specialist keeper-batter was benched.

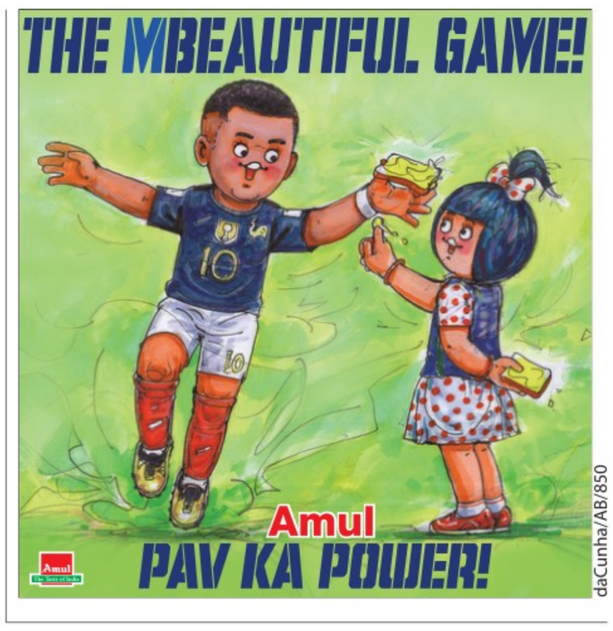
The tough calls haven't yet been taken by coach Rahul Dravid and captain Rohit Sharma and it doesn't look like it will be taken any time soon.

The teams (from) :

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-capt. & wk), Shikhar Dhawan, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Ishan Kishan (wk), Shahbaz Ahmed, Axar Patel, Deepak Chahar, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Sen, Shardul Thakur, Umran Malik, Washington Sundar, Rahul Tripathi and Rajat Patidar.

Bangladesh: Litton Das (Capt.), Anamul Haque, Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim, Afif Hossain, Yasir Ali, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Mustafizur Rahman, Hasan Mahmud, Ebadot Hossain, Nasum Ahmed, Mahmudullah, Najmul Hossain Shanto, Nurul Hasan and Shoriful Islam.

Match starts at 11.30 a.m. IST.



Cilic heads strong field for Tata Open

Sports Bureau
PUNE

Former US Open champion and current World No. 17 Marin Cilic headlines the 2023 Tata Open Maharashtra acceptance list that was announced on Tuesday.

India's lone ATP 250 event will return to its traditional start-of-the-season slot, with the main draw scheduled to start on January 2, 2023.

The last two editions (2020 and 2022) were held just after the Australian Open, taking the sheen off the tournament.

In addition to Cilic, the tournament confirmed five other top-50 players: Netherlands' Botic van de Zandschulp (No. 35), Finland's Emil Ruusuvuori (40), Argentine Sebastian Baez (43), American Jenson Brooksby (48) and Slovakia's Alex Molcan (50). The cut-off for direct entry stands at 115.

Zandschulp competed in all four Majors in 2022, losing to Rafael Nadal at both the French Open (round of 32) and Wimbledon (round of 16).

Cilic. AP

He also finished a runner-up at the Munich ATP 250.

Ruusuvuori finished a runner-up in Pune last year and rose up the rankings subsequently.

Baez won the ATP 250 events in Estoril and finished runner-up in Bastad and Santiago.

Brooksby reached two finals (Dallas and Atlanta) and would look for his maiden tour-level title.

Southpaw Molcan reached the finals in Lyon, and in Marrakech where he recorded a stunning win over top-10 Felix Auger-Aliassime.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Nikin Jose included in Ranji probables list

S.J. Nikin Jose has been rewarded for his fine performance in the Vijay Hazare Trophy (447 runs at an average of 55.87) with a call-up to the 32-man Karnataka Ranji Trophy probables list.

The list: K.L. Rahul, Mayank Agarwal, Manish Pandey, Karun Nair, Devdutt Padikkal, R. Samarth, D. Nischal, Abhinav Manohar, K.V. Siddharth, K.V. Aneesh, S.J. Nikin Jose, Vishal Onat, K. Gowtham, Shreyas Gopal, J. Suchith, Paras Gurbax Arya, Mohsin Khan, Ritesh Bhatkal, Shubhang Hegde, A.C. Rohit Kumar, S.A. Rishi Bopanna, K. Shashi Kumar, Sharath Srinivas, B.R. Sharath, Nihal Ullal, Prasidh M. Krishna, Ronit More, V. Vyshak, M. Venkatesh, Vidyadhar Patil, V. Koushik, Vidwath Kaverappa.

Krushna excels in Vultures CC's triumph

An all-round effort by Krushna V. Rao (40 n.o. & 5/36) helped Vultures CC defeat Young Lions Club by 110 runs and win the KSCA (Group I) under-14 inter-club tournament.

The scores (final): Vultures CC 215/8 in 50 overs (M. Jayan Samyog 27, Mihran Abdul Rehman 30, S.P. Banesh 40, Krushna V. Rao 40 n.o.) bt Young Lions Club 105 in 34.2 overs (Brahmanya Theertha R. Kuber 37, Krushna V. Rao 5/36).

Easy for FC Deccan

FC Deccan defeated Bangalore Independents 2-0 in the BDFA Super Division League football here on Tuesday.

The results: Kodagu FC 1 (Tshering Lepecha 58) drew with Bangalore Eagles FC 1 (Nishad Roshan 20); FC Deccan 2 (Harsh S. Utekar 64, I. Lijith 77) bt Bangalore Independents FC 0.

Aradhya and Jaya in last eight

Top seeds Aradhya Kshitij and Jaya Kapoor entered the quarterfinals of the Bren Asian Junior Tour (16 & under) tennis event on Tuesday. While Aradhya defeated Srikar Doni 6-4, 7-5, Jaya beat V. Keshmeya 6-0, 6-2.

Young champs: The triumphant Vultures CC squad.

Victorious: The BMRG Tigers team that defeated Carpe Diem 3-0 in the final to win the Canara Union Badminton League recently.

SNAPSHOTS

Aditya.TWITTER/MITTAL_GM77

Aditya Mittal becomes India's 77th GM

CHENNAI: Sixteen-year-old Aditya Mittal has become India's 77th chess Grandmaster. The Mumbai player, who had secured three GM norms, crossed 2,500 ELO points mark during the sixth round of the ongoing El Llobregat Open tournament in Spain. He drew against Spain's No.1 Francisco Vallejo Pons to achieve the feat.
Mittal earned his maiden GM norm at Serbia Masters 2021.
Subsequently, he obtained his second GM norm at Ellobregat Open 2021 and secured his third at Serbia Masters 2022.

Powar set to become men's team's spin bowling coach

MUMBAI: Ramesh Powar is set to join the men's cricket team as spin bowling coach
The former Test cricketer was on Tuesday formally moved from his existing role as the head coach of the national women's team to the support staff group at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) .
While announcing the reshuffle, the BCCI has also handed Hrishikesh Kanitkar the responsibility of the women's team's batting coach.

Nurudeen scores a brace as Real Kashmir downs Sreenidi

SRINAGAR: Ibrahim Nurudeen struck a brace to guide Real Kashmir to a 2-1 win over Sreenidi Deccan in a sixth-round I-League clash in Srinagar on Tuesday. Unbeaten Real Kashmir, with five wins and one draw, maintained the top spot in the table with 16 points, while Sreenidhi is second.
The result: Real Kashmir 2 (Nurudeen 2) bt Sreenidhi 1 (Akhtar).

Mukesh helps India-A restrict Bangladesh-A

SYLHET: Seamer Mukesh Kumar continued with his dream show in First Class cricket with career-best figures of six for 40 as India-A dismissed Bangladesh-A for 252 on the first day of the second 'unofficial Test' on Tuesday.
At stumps, India-A had made 11 for no loss.
The scores: Bangladesh-A 252 in 80.5 overs (Shahadat Hossain 80, Jaker Ali 62, Mukesh Kumar 6/40) vs India-A 11/0 in 4 overs. **Toss:** India-A.

Mukesh Kumar.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

The McCullum-Stokes way: no going back to the drawing board

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

It would have been fitting had Ben Stokes been named Player-of-the-Match. For his captaincy alone. As the sun was setting, England won a Test in Pakistan while suggesting the sun might be rising afresh on Test matches in general. Test cricket is serious business, but the way to succeed is to play it in a fun way.

England kept to their new philosophy, scoring at 6.5 runs an over in the first innings and 7.36 in the second. Cricket is a game of time and space. And by scoring at that rate, England gave themselves both, allowing the bowlers enough time to bowl Pakistan out and the fielders enough space to crowd the batsman.

The sporting declaration gave Pakistan four sessions in which to make 343, not impossible on a track where 1500 runs had already been scored.

Change in strategy

Traditionally, no captain likes to take chances in the first Test of a series. The temptation is to keep the fast bowlers fresh for the next Test rather than inspire them to bowl aggressively for a win in the current one.

Cricket is often played for the future, even at the cost of keeping the present unremarkable. But when what is pleasing is also rewarding, sport is doubly blessed. If the McCullum-Stokes formula spreads, Test cricket has nothing to worry about.

No one would have criticised either team playing for a draw, certainly not the media which love to say things like "Both teams had scored over 550 in their first innings; neither deserved to lose."

Tennis legend John McEnroe spoke up for all sportsmen when he admitted years ago that "there was always a devil inside me which I had to fight – the fear of failure." By eliminating, or at least controlling that fear, England have reached a peak of the sport. And while that may or may not be confirmed statistically at the end of the season, it might still help change the way cricket is played.

England are not afraid to try something new or go against received wisdom. And they do it with flair, a word not always associated with English cricket. The downside is that to succeed consistently, this approach requires more luck than usual. There will be times when the dramatic innings or the challenging declaration or the inspired but illogical bowling change fail and the team loses.

That is when England's philosophy will be tested. Do they continue as usual or play safe? Will a draw suddenly look attractive?

Stokes is changing not only the players' attitude, but the perception of the media too. Expectations will continue to soar, the search for the cracks in the apparent perfection of team and tactics will intensify.

'Total cricket'

A Test match that began under a cloud of uncertainty in Rawalpindi, with England barely managing to field eleven players after a bug laid many of them low, was lifted out of the ordinary by the imagination and will of England's captain.

This is total cricket – where everybody has signed up for the new vision and communicates the sheer enjoyment of the game. Victories have followed belief.

On a track that saw seven centuries in the first innings, it is remarkable that a result was achieved. Pakistan looked to be in control for about half their innings before Ollie Robinson induced the slide.

Former captain Joe Root batted left-handed for a spell in the second innings (to counter leg-spinner Zahid Mahmood), hinting perhaps at the future where players may be ambidextrous. It was in keeping with the spirit of experiment that has suffused this team.

Abhor a draw

The last time a Test was played in Rawalpindi, both Pakistan and Australia scored over 450 in the first innings; the fourth innings wasn't even played as Pakistan finished at 252 without loss in their second.

England's decision to risk the odd defeat in pursuit of victory – which is how cricket should be played – has seen them win seven of their last eight Tests, losing only one. This is a team that abhors drawn matches.

England, who taught the world to play cricket are now teaching it how to play better Test cricket. When winning isn't everything, it is surprising how often you win.